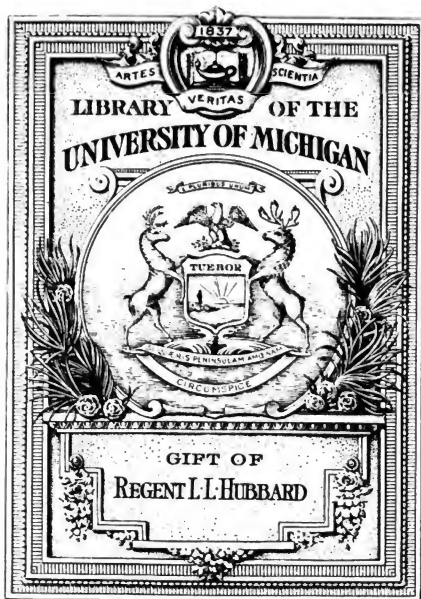




*Bound by Lee & have been bound Oct. 3, 1719.
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THE
ADVENTURES,
AND
SURPRIZING DELIVERANCES,
OF
JAMES DUBOURDIEU,
AND HIS
WIFE:

Who were taken by Pyrates, and carried to the
Uninhabited-Part of the Isle of *Paradise*.

CONTAINING

A Description of that Country, its Laws, Religion,
and Customs: Of Their being at last releas'd; and
how they came to *Paris*, where they are still living.

ALSO, THE
ADVENTURES
OF

ALEXANDER VENDORCHURCH,

Whose Ship's Crew Rebelled against him, and set him
on Shore on an Island in the *South-Sea*, where he
liv'd five Years, five Months, and seven Days; and
was at last providentially releas'd by a *Jamaica* Ship.

Written by HIMSELF.

L O N D O N :

Printed by J. Bettenham for A. Bettefworth and T. Warner, in
Pater-noster Row; C. Rivington, in *St. Paul's Church-yard*;
J. Brotherton and W. Meadows, in *Cornhill*; A. Dodd without
Temple Bar; and W. Chetwood in *Covent Garden*. 1719.

Price Two Shillings.

Evans, Ambrose, supposed author.



Rare Book Room

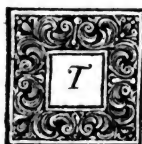
Gift

L. L. Hubbard

12-19-27

THE

PREFACE.



THE value of history is too universally allow'd to need any proof in this place; but as the subject of history in general is of princes, kingdoms and nations, with their several fates and revolutions; and that the Biographers themselves, who treat only of particular lives, have for the most part chosen to write of men who are eminent by their stations, either in war or peace; it may seem necessary to say something in behalf of transmitting to posterity the transactions of private persons, who have never been distinguish'd from the rest of mankind by their places or dignity, or any thing else but the singularity of their fortune.

THERE is a double use of history in general, that is, one for delight, and the other instruction; the principal instruction, which is drawn from them, relates chiefly to statesmen; that by a view of former events they may form some conjectural judgment of the present:
That

THE PREFACE.

That of delight reaches every one who takes any pleasure in knowing what has pass'd in the world from its beginning.

THE relation likewise of the adventures of private men is not without its advantage, either of delight or instruction; nay, I may say, that both these are more extensive in the latter than in the former; these reaching to every one, those to but few. What delight particular accounts give, is plain from the general reception of travels and voyages, and the lives of private persons, which have always been receiv'd with considerable satisfaction and applause, when they afford any thing either entertaining, surprizing, or beneficial to the active part of the world.

AMONG these, I believe I may say, that the two following relations merit as valuable a place as any that have been publish'd; but this I wholly leave to the judgment of the reader.



THE



THE
L I V E S,
ADVENTURES,
AND
WONDERFUL DELIVERANCES
OF
Mrs. *MARTHA RATTENBERG*,
AND
JAMES DUBOURDIEU.

SIR,



ACCORDING to your desire, I take this opportunity of one of my Lord Ambassador's retinue going for *London*, to send you a full account of the strange and wonderful adventures of our Countrywoman Mrs. *Martha Rattenberg*, and of *James Dubourdieu* her husband; for you must know that marriage in *France* does not take away the maiden name of the wife, and this is the reason I call her *Rattenberg*, and not *Dubourdieu*.

B

ABOUT

ABOUT the fifteenth of *February* last, I was overtaken with a storm of rain and hail, which forced me into the first publick house I came at, which made a much handsomer appearance than the Taverns of this City usually do; but that was no invitation of my taking into it, for had it been much worse, it had been sufficient to shelter me from the storm.

WHEN I came in, the first person I met with was the mistress of the house, a comely woman of about fifty: Having taken my seat and call'd for my wine, it was soon brought me by her husband, a man about threescore; for houses of this nature in *Paris* are not furnish'd with drawers like a *London Tavern*. I ask'd them both several questions, which they answer'd with great civility, particularly of what Province they were; the man reply'd, that he came from *Burdeaux*, and the wife, that she was of *England*; upon which the rest of our conversation ran in the *English* tongue, which the husband understood very well, tho' he pronounc'd it still like a *Frenchman*. The good woman finding me an *Englishman*, said, she hop'd I would endeavour to promote their business, by recommending her house to the rest of the *English* of my acquaintance in *Paris*; assuring me they should find very good accommodation, both in the liquor, and in the rooms where they were to drink it. We are, said she, tho' old people, but young beginners in this business; yet

yet with a prospect of engaging my countrymen, we have taken care to make the rooms as commodious as we can, and as like those in *London*; upon which she desired me to take a view of them, and I found them indeed much handsomer than I expected; among the rest there was one that might pass even in *London* it self.

It was hung round with several good Prints by *Audran Simon du Cange*, and other good hands; but that which touch'd me most was a piece of painting over the chimney, not for the exquisiteness of the work, for that was but indifferent, but for the oddness of it, the main matter that fill'd the picture being a sea without one ship upon it, in the middle of it was plac'd an island, much the greatest part of which seem'd to be nothing but rocks; but the low-land, which appear'd to be very small, was adorn'd with several beautiful trees, and fruit, and flowers as beautiful as the painter could make them. My landlady observing my eye fix'd upon this piece, ask'd me the reason of it; I told her that the oddness of the painter's fancy had mov'd me to enquire whether 'twas a representation of any particular place, or only a whim of his own. Ah! Sir, reply'd she, that painting I caus'd to be put up here, to put me often in mind of that signal deliverance which my husband and I had about ten years ago, and which ought never to be forgotten by us.

OBSERVING that she utter'd this with some concern, I call'd for more wine, and press'd her to know the story. Alas! Sir, said she, my story is too long for you to hear at one sitting, but I will do what I can to gratify your curiosity; upon which sitting down, she gave me a short account of her life and adventures, from her birth to that time; and tho' she hurry'd it over, yet it took up all that evening, and part of the night.

I have sent you by pieces several of the most extraordinary incidents of it, which mov'd your curiosity so far as to importune me for a perfect narration of the whole. In obedience to your commands I went to the *Golden Dragon*, and made my request to Mrs. *Rattenberg* that she would let me write it from her mouth for a friend in *England*; and gave her this encouragement to do it, that I would come every day and dine with her 'till it was done. The good woman made some difficulty at first of complying with my request, but I had been too good a customer since my discovery of the house, and brought too many of my acquaintance thither to let her venture the disobliging me by a denial: Having therefore got all things in order, I went thither, and began the work on the seventh of *April* last, and which I now send you just as she deliver'd it to me.

I was

I was born, says she, as I have told you, in *Pensance* in the County of *Cornwal*, my Father's name was *Stephen Rattenberg*; I can't say he was a Gentleman, but he farm'd his own estate, which was about forty pounds a year, a pretty competency in that cheap country, and with which he brought up six daughters and one son, all whom he saw married and settled before he married his second wife, my mother, at which time he was fifty five years of age, and my mother not six and twenty: I have been told she was very handsome, for I never saw her; she dy'd in childbed a few days after I was born, so that I may be said truly to have come into the world with sorrow; however my father was so fond of me, calling me the child of his age, that I could not be sensible of the loss of my mother.

As soon as I was capable he had me taught to read and write, and gave me all the advantages of education, which that little place and his own small abilities were capable of. The better to encourage my reading, he got me all the pleasant story books which were fitted to my age and capacity. But had I any children of my own, I would never suffer them to read those idle books, since they fill'd my head with so many wandering notions, that I have never been able to settle my mind ever since to my present condition, always feeding my self with vain hopes of bettering my fortune by my change of place, tho' I still found,
at

at least for the most part, that this change was for the worse.

I was now come to my thirteenth year, forward and pert enough for my age; when my father growing very old and infirm, began to find by his inward decay that he was not long for this world; but all his concern at his leaving of it was, that he left me friendless and unprovided for, tho' he had taken care out of his small income to lay up one hundred broad pieces of gold, all my mother's apparel, and all his household goods, except what he had already disposed of to my brother and sisters: He left also a particular charge on his death bed to my brother, to take as much care of me as if I were his own child, and that with such bitter imprecations and curses on him if he wrong'd me, as make me still tremble to think how that evil son of a good father could have so little regard to them.

Now began the scene of my sorrows to open, and no sooner was my father dead, but I found a strange alteration in my condition; for I who 'till now had been mistress of the house, could after my father's burial scarce be admitted to any share in it; for my brother and his family coming now into possession of it, left me but little to do there: I found some small civility at first from both brother and sister, but that was only the better to deceive me, and cheat me of all I had.

I told

I told you that my father had sav'd together a hundred broad pieces of gold for me, these he deliver'd into my custody some time before he dy'd; and therefore mention'd them not in his will, by which he only bequeathed me his household goods, and this was that which gave a colour or pretence to him of cheating me of all my money; pretending, that as heir to my father, whatever money he had left was his: In short, by fair means and foul he got the money into his possession, and then turn'd me out of doors with only my cloaths to my back, and some other necessaries which he own'd to be mine. I had a near relation liv'd in the same town, whither I retir'd, and was kindly received by him, with assurances that he would stand by me against my cruel brother; but I knew his abilities were too small to engage with him, and therefore was willing to get as soon as I could to *Plymouth*, where I had an uncle, who was a man of substance and reputation, and might, if he would heartily engage in my cause, easily bring my brother to reason.

ACCORDINGLY I got letters from my cousin in *Pensance* who had so kindly receiv'd me; which letters fully inform'd my uncle of all that had pass'd between my brother and me. Out of the wreck of my fortune I had taken care secretly to convey five broad pieces into my pocket, and which I did not own even to my kind cousin, who

who sent his son to convey me to *Plymouth*; where without any remarkable adventures by the way, we arriv'd in three days thro' the worst road in the world, and not to be rode with any horses, except such as are bred in that Country, with any tolerable safety to the rider's neck.

My young cousin soon found out my uncle, who at first received me tolerably well; but when he heard that my father was dead, and by the letters found all that had pass'd between me and my brother, I found a visible alteration in his countenance, and he spoke in a more surly tone than before. Well, said he, niece, what would you have me do in this affair? Would you have me go to law with your brother for you? No, no, forsooth, I have something else to do with my money, than upon your story to throw it away on law. I have a great family of my own, and a great deal of business to mind; besides, how do I know that what you tell me is true, I ought to hear your brother first; come to me again when I have heard from him, and I will tell you more of my mind. Come to you again, Sir! said I, whither would you have me go, or where reside but with you, my uncle, in a strange place, where I know no body? Why did you come then, says he, to a place where you knew no body? I have no room in my house for strangers, I don't keep an Inn, nor have I victuals enough for my self and my family: Pray, mistress, walk and be gone. With that he took me

me by the arm, and made my cousin and I walk out before him, I with my eyes full of tears, and my cousin pale with anger and grief; and had not my uncle been a very old man, I believe he would have beat him lustily: However, we return'd to the inn where we left our horses, and there got some refreshment for our selves. Having cry'd out my cry I began to recover my spirits, and fed pretty heartily; my cousin did all he could to persuade me to go back with him to *Pensance*, assuring me of his father's kind reception of me at my return; but I told him, I could not think of being a burthen to him who had so large a family of his own, nor would I give my brother a triumph in the ill success of my journey. After many arguments on both sides, we went both to bed to our rest.

WE rose early in the morning, and as sorrow never lay long at my heart, so there was no signs of any grief to be found in my face, but all was jocund and easy, as if nothing had happen'd. That day we spent in viewing the town, particularly the castle and the docks, at the last of which I heard such a character of my uncle, (for he was a master shipwright) that I did not wonder at the usage I had met with from him; for the workmen told me and my cousin, that he was the most noted miser in *Plymouth*, a miser to that degree, as to make a proverb, *As covetous as old Rattenberg*; that he had al-

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most

most starv'd his family, tho' very rich, forcing two of his sons to go to sea as common sailors, for he would make no provision for them, by putting them out apprentice to any trade, since that requir'd money, which he did not know how to part with on any account whatsoever; that he yet kept himself in pretty good plight, by eating and drinking at other mens cost. Coming home to dinner, we chose to give my landlord so much a-piece to dine with him and his family; where, giving an account of all that had happen'd to me, both at home and at *Plymouth*, the good gentlewoman of the house seem'd mightily mov'd with my story, and ask'd me if I had a mind to go to service? I reply'd, very willingly, provided I could get a place easy enough for my age and my ignorance; that I was willing to learn, and to accept her good offices with thanks, if she could help me to any such service. She gave me hopes of recommending me to a rich old Gentlewoman, whose business would not be very great; that in the meantime I might stay at her house, and pay her when I was able. Thus another day pass'd on, and my cousin stay'd to the utmost extent of his time and money, either to persuade me to go back with him, or see me well fix'd in *Plymouth*; but not being able to do either, the third morning he set out for home; we did not part without Tears, nor would he leave me, as he thought, entirely without money, and therefore divided his stock betwixt us, which amounted to no more than

than a crown a-piece. I manag'd my crown so well, that with the credit I had in my inn, I made it last 'till I got into service, which was above a fortnight.

IN the mean time, I had been three times with my new mistress, and she had made me read to her, and shew her my writing, both which pleas'd her very well, assuring me, that for the rest I was to do, she would take care to instruct me, and told me, that my business with her would be very easy, since I had nothing to do but to provide and dress her victuals, make her bed, dress and undress her, and wash her linen, and my own, for which I was to have thirty shillings a year; which small wages she promis'd to encrease according to my care in pleasing her.

THE old Gentlewoman had above fourscore pounds a year, for her life only, and that in small tenements in the town, besides money, which she let out from twenty shillings to twenty pound, at legal interest, and to persons whom she knew to be good pay-masters: The maid she had just parted with was an old peevish creature, who refus'd to humour her in any thing, but I being now come to her, took care to do every thing to her satisfaction, to study her humour, and when I was acquainted with it, to prevent even her desires in the very minutest things about her; particularly to make much of her little dog and

cat, of which she was very fond ; so that in less than two months time, I had won the heart of the old Lady entirely. The cold weather now coming on, I was very solicitous that she should lie warm in her bed, and therefore profer'd myself to be her bedfellow. By these, and other arts, I had made my self mistress of her affections, so far, as she began to use me and love me as her own child, for she was a woman of a great deal of good nature and humanity ; and I began to think my self so happy, that the memory of my past misfortunes wore out, and I thought no more of my brother's cruelty and injustice, 'till my good mistress told me, she was resolv'd to make my brother do me right. I assur'd her, that I was not in the least pain about it, since the wrong he had done me had produc'd so happy an event, as I esteem'd the being in her service to be. Upon which, she embrac'd me and kiss'd me, and told me she would take care that the being in her service should indeed be a happiness to me ; to begin which, she would order her attorney, the most considerable in the town of *Plymouth*, to commence a suit against my brother in my name. I return'd her a thousand thanks, and tho' I had but little reason to regard my brother's good, I yet prevail'd with her to send to him, and demand the restitution of my goods and money, of which I had kept an inventory, made by my father before his death, in my pocket, with my five broad pieces, which were now laid up in a box my mistress had given me,

with

with such cloaths as she had bestow'd upon me,

My brother had a pretty numerous family, and had not been so good a husband as my father had been before him, so that he was but ill provided for a suit at law, which must bring daily expences upon him.

My mistress therefore praising my good nature, made her attorney send his chief clerk, who was a *Cornish* man, and born within three miles of *Pensance*, to make a legal demand of my due. When he came to my brother, and had inform'd him of his business, he seem'd not at all concern'd, but asking where I was, and how I did, told him, That he had done nothing by me but what was justifiable by law, and did not doubt but that, if I was so mad as to commence a suit with him, he should be as able to defend himself, as I should be to attack him. The young man reply'd, Do not depend too much upon your sister's inability, for she has a mistress, who is a very rich woman, who is resolv'd to let her want for no money to carry on her cause, and at whose expence he was come so far to make this demand; but he gave him till the next day to consider and give a positive answer, and so he left him and went home to his father, who, as I told you, liv'd about three miles from my brother, to whom, when he return'd the next day, he found him very much alter'd in his note, telling him, That he had too much love for me
to

to put me to the charge of a suit, which I must be sure to pay, if I prevail'd in the cause, and would perhaps find it difficult to find money to pay cost and charges if he should cast me, of which, he said, he had not the least doubt; but since he had a love for me, as being his father's daughter, and much belov'd by him, he would give me fifty pounds, in full of all demands, which, as it was all he could any way raise, so it was entirely out of his own pocket. The young man told him, That tho' he had no authority to make a composition, yet, if he would send his offer in writing, under his own hand, he would deliver it to me, but could not promise him any success, the case appearing so barbarous on his side, not only by my account of the matter, but by that of our common relations and neighbours here at *Pensance*.

In short, he writ so mournful a letter to me, that I prevail'd with my mistress to suffer me to accept of his proposal, which I was the more ready to do, by his appearance at *Plymouth* two days after the return of the attorney's clerk, when he made the condition of himself and family so deplorable, that I had certainly forgiven the whole, had not my mistress obstinately oppos'd my folly, nor would she let me so much as take his bond for the money; so that he was oblig'd to make a mortgage to my miserly uncle, and pay me the fifty pounds, and take my mistress's receipt, I having chosen her for my guardian on this occasion; so

so he left *Plymouth*, and I heard no more of him till I saw him three years afterwards in a very poor condition at *London*.

Now fortune seem'd to smile, and gave me nothing but agreeable prospects. I put my money into my mistress's hands, who plac'd it out on good security for me, and I went on every day encreasing in her favour; and having liv'd with her about a year, she, to my unspeakable sorrow, dy'd, but in her will, bequeath'd me fifty pounds more, for my faithful service; so that now I was once again mistress of one hundred pounds, besides my five broad pieces, which I always kept by me untouch'd, and was very well furnish'd with cloaths, both linen and woollen. Having put my self in mourning, I return'd to my old friend, the inn-keeper's wife, into whose hands I put the money my mistress had left me, and by her persuasions call'd in my own fifty pounds, in order to put it all out on such advantageous terms, that if they had answer'd, would have kept me without going any more to service; but I found it was necessary to manage this, that I should chuse a guardian, for whom I nam'd the inn-keeper; so that he was now master of near one hundred pounds of my money.

Whilst I liv'd with my mistress I had much time upon my hands, which I spent in reading; but the books that diverted me most, were travels and voyages; and they had stirr'd up in me a
mighty

mighty desire of seeing the world ; which desire, since my mistress's death, grew greater and greater every day, and that which compleated my resolution, was, the arrival of a Gentlewoman at our inn, at least of one that appear'd to me to be a Gentlewoman, tho' she had been a few years before a servant to that inn ; whence going to *London*, and falling into the service of a rich citizen, was marry'd by him, and so made mistress of a plentiful fortune : She was now come down to *Plymouth* to see her friends, and among others, paid a visit to her mistress, the inn-keeper's wife, where she talk'd so much in the praise of *London*, that I was fully resolv'd to go thither out of hand ; but I had much ado to prevail with my new guardian, 'till I assur'd him I would still leave my money in his hands, to be manag'd for my advantage in my absence, excepting twenty pounds, which I thought necessary for my journey ; all the dispute now lay, whether I should go by land or by sea, but that was soon determin'd, by information that there was a ship going off of about 200 tuns, in three or four days time : My guardian therefore agreed with the master for my passage, and I went on board the very morning she set sail.

THERE was nothing happen'd in this Voyage worth taking notice of, but the Weather being fair, gave me a mighty love for the sea, for we pass'd our time very pleasantly, being most commonly upon deck ; where, among the Passengers,

gers there was one who play'd mighty well on the violin, an instrument which before I had never heard in that perfection; the musician was young and handsome, and had been a voyage with a captain of a man of war up the *Streights*, and the ship being now laid up, he chose rather to go this way to *London*, than to ride post with the captain; I know not what he saw in me, or I in him, but he pretended to be very much in love with me, and I was very well pleas'd to think him so; thus betwixt love and musick, mirth and good company, our ship brought us to *Portsmouth*, where she was oblig'd to touch, and make a stay of some days; which opportunity the master of musick and I took, as well as the rest of the passengers, to see the town, and divert our selves ashore. Mr. *Geeting*, for so was my musician call'd, took care to give me all the diversion he could, still pressing his love with all the earnestness imaginable, and his professions being so honourable as marriage, I confess I heard him with so much satisfaction that I could not disguise it to him, but promis'd to marry him as soon as we arriv'd at *London*; but this would not answer his ends, and therefore he contriv'd to keep me ashore when the ship should set sail, which he brought about by this means; under pretence of riding to view the country, he carry'd me so far, that when we came back we found the gates of the town shut up, which oblig'd us to go

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to

to a little publick house not far from it, there to pass the night till the gates should be open'd in the morning.

THERE my false lover left nothing unattempted to gain his ends, but I resolutely oppos'd them, and render'd all his efforts to no purpose; when I was angry he us'd all his art and submission to appease me, and when once I was appeas'd, he us'd all his force to anger me again; but I remain'd unconquer'd in spite of opportunity and importunity, from the man whom I found I lov'd but too well, forgiving him all he had done, on his promise of never attempting the like again, and of marrying me that morning before we went on ship-board. Terms of accommodation being thus agreed, we enter'd the gates of *Portsmouth* as soon as they were open'd, but I was strangely confounded when coming to the place where we left the ship, I found she was sail'd away without me, and my lover had much ado to appease me by assuring me, that he would see me safe to *London* time enough to meet the ship there on its first arrival; which with finding a letter from the master at our Inn, where they generally were when on shore, made me pretty easy.

My lover now began to press me farther for favours, which I assur'd him I would never grant till marriage had made them lawful; but that to please him I would consent to marry
that

that very morning; he therefore went and got a ring, and a parson ready, who while he was performing his office, was stopp'd by a pretty young woman, who it seems had follow'd us, among others, into the church, and claim'd my false lover for her husband. This had been enough to have put a man of tolerable modesty out of countenance, but he not at all concern'd flies to her, takes her in his arms, and kisses her, crying out, And art thou alive then, my dear *Betty*? I had news in the *Streights* that you dy'd soon after I left *England*. No, you villain, reply'd she, I am still alive to plague you, tho' I might have dy'd, nay, been starv'd to death, for what care you took of me, and now I find you endeavouring to ruin another woman, had not fortune brought me strangely hither, to prevent her unhappiness. Many more words of this nature pass'd betwixt this happy pair of whore and rogue coupled together; for I understood afterwards that she had been a common jilt in *London*, and was now come to *Portsmouth* with a company of strolling players, who enter'd that town but the very night before, as if it had been on purpose to preserve me from destruction: I left the church in some confusion, and made what haste I could home to my Inn, there to consider what I had to do in my present condition.

I found my self all alone, in a strange place, without any friends to advise or assist me; I

had indeed money enough in my pocket to carry me to my journey's end, and letters of recommendation from my guardian at *Plymouth* to his friends in *London*, to take care of me; I therefore call'd for my landlady, and desir'd her to get me the most speedy passage she could; which she did, by taking me a place in the *Portsmouth* coach, which set out the next morning. Tho' I was vex'd at my forwardness in listening to the love of a strange man, whom I had never seen before, yet I was not without a secret satisfaction that I had behav'd my self with so much virtue and courage against all his villainous attempts, and was heartily glad that I was got rid of him so; but it seems I was not so clear of him as I desir'd to be, since before the evening word was brought me, that there was a Gentlewoman wanted to speak with me; I order'd her to be admitted, but not knowing any one that could have business with me there, I order'd the maid to send up her mistress to be with me whilst I receiv'd this visit, but she could not come so soon as the strange Gentlewoman enter'd my room, whom I presently knew to be the wife of my gallant, and whose timely coming into the church had done me such service: I receiv'd her with all the civility I could, but she having taken her seat according to my desire, she began to accuse me of keeping company with her husband, and threaten'd me, with very high words, to give me trouble for it, as well as for the money I had made

made him spend upon me; by this time my landlady came in, who sitting down, and hearing from me what had pass'd between us, took her up very roundly; Come, *Betty*, says she, how dare you venture to put any of your tricks upon a guest of mine, since you are sensible I know you too well to suffer an innocent country girl, who has suffer'd too much by the rogue your husband, to be your bubble too? with much more of this she tam'd Mrs. *Betty* entirely. However I then interpos'd, Mrs. *Betty*, said I, I believe that my club, in his expences with me, will come within ten shillings, and scorning to be treated by such a villain, there is half a piece for you; tho' the mistress of the house would have hinder'd her taking it, but that I press'd it so earnestly: on which she put it in her pocket, and gave us a full account of the rogueries of her husband's past life, by which she shew'd him to be a compleat villain, tho' not two and twenty; but these things having nothing to do with my story, I shall pass over in silence.

THE next morning I set out from *Portsmouth* in the flying-coach, which then went through in a day; so that I arriv'd at *London* late the same evening, which made me take up my lodging that night in the Inn where the coach set up.

ABOUT

ABOUT nine the next morning I took a porter with me to shew me the way to St. *Catherine's*, where my guardian's friend, to whom I had letters, liv'd, who upon reading my letters, receiv'd me with a great deal of civility, and went with me to find out the ship, which at last we found very near the *Custom-House*, and the master happening to be on board, deliver'd me my things, and made an apology for his failing without me: My friend took care to have them all convey'd to his house, where I continu'd for some time.

THO' I had a pretty good stock of cloaths, yet all being made in the country, they were too unfashionable for this town, so that I was oblig'd to have some of them alter'd, and drew a bill upon my guardian for ten pounds more, in order to furnish my self compleatly, but receiv'd a letter of advice, to manage my money with a little more prudence, since my stock was too small for me to pretend to follow all the fashions: However, by a repeated importunity I prevail'd with him to send me five pounds, which was all that ever I had of my money, my guardian, soon after, breaking for a considerable sum,

THERE liv'd an old maid in the house, who being sister to the master of it, manag'd all his domestick affairs: With her I went about to see the town, even from *Wapping* to *Westminster*;

ster ; and indeed she shew'd me every thing that was worth a stranger's curiosity, thro' its whole extent.

BARTHOLOMEW Fair coming on, she carry'd me likewise to see that ; tho' the Drolls and other Shews gave me diversion enough, yet the *Royal Oak Lottery* was what took most with me ; for having always a mind to raise my fortune, I was still ready to catch hold of every appearance of doing it ; wherefore being instructed by looking on, I was resolv'd to venture what little money I had about me ; I took my place and sat down ; and did not get up till my good luck had prov'd that my hopes were not in vain. My companion finding that I had won about twenty Guineas, was for hurrying me away, for fear the chance should turn, and leave me worse than it found me.

THIS good fortune tempted me to go again, which I did several times during the Fair, and generally came off a winner ; in somuch, that by the end of the Fair, I had got together by the Royal Oak, near one hundred pounds, which was not every bodies fate with that lottery. This success made me pursue the same course during the time of *Southwark Fair* ; but my landlord and his sister represented the great odds against me so effectually, which she confirm'd with particular instances of numbers daily ruin'd that way, that I sat down content-
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ed with what I had got, and only consider'd how I might with safety improve my gains: The late loss of my money in my guardian's hands, made me afraid to trust it out of my own custody, and yet to keep it by me was not the way to improve it, and the sum it self was too small for me to pretend to live upon, which left me under a necessity of seeking out for some creditable service, which would at least hinder me from impairing it: In order to this, I set my self to learn all those qualifications which were capable of recommending me to the most beneficial places that a servant could hope for; I learn'd therefore to raise paste, to distil, and make all manner of confectionary ware, as well as the art of cookery in general, and had gain'd a pretty smattering in the *French* tongue, by conversing with a *French* Gentlewoman who lodg'd in the house; who having an acquaintance at the other end of the town, at last got me to be waiting-woman to a Lady of quality, where I had twenty pounds a year, besides a share in my Lady's old cloaths, who being young and gay, made that perquisite pretty considerable to me.

In this post I might have been happy enough if I could have been contented; but to be subject to the will and pleasure of another, I began soon to think intolerable, and therefore all my thoughts and invention were taken up how to make my way into some condition
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of life which was more free and independent.

THERE was one Mr. *Rogers* who paid his court very constantly to my Lord, he kept his chariot, and a handsome equipage, and made as great a figure as if he himself had been a man of quality; but I understood that his father was a shoe-maker, of *Exeter*, and not being able to live by his trade, on the first peopling of *Barbadoes* went thither, and had rais'd a very considerable estate, which was now come to the son, and had made him a Gentleman, and companion for Lords: This reviv'd my old inclination for travel, especially to that country, where those people who went beggars, return'd home masters of such considerable riches; but being a woman indeed was some check to these imaginations; yet being young, and not disagreeable, as I thought, I flatter'd my self that I might, as well as other women that went over servants, come back wife to some wealthy planter: However the difficulties seem'd too great for me at that time to struggle with, and I had some other ill fortune to go through, before I could be entirely wean'd from my love to my native country.

WALKING one evening in the park with my Lady's house-keeper, there was a handsome Gentleman would needs talk to us as we walk'd there, and was master enough of that tittle tattle which generally takes with our sex; tho' he talk'd

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to us both, yet his chief application was to me ; we had no way to get rid of him, but by leaving the park, and going home ; he seemingly took his leave of us, but order'd chairmen to watch us, as he told me afterwards ; and having thus got knowledge of our abode, he soon found out who and what we were ; and by picking an acquaintance with one of my Lord's gentlemen, found means of coming into my company, and of making his addressees to me ; and made such an intimacy with my Lord's gentleman, that he prov'd his perpetual advocate in his absence : I told you that his person was handsome, and his talk agreeable, which, joyn'd with the importunity and the solicitations of his friend in the house, made me at last agree to marry ; in order to which, I gave my Lady warning, much to her dissatisfaction, for she had a particular kindness for me : I assur'd her Ladyship, that it was not out of any disgust to my place, but that I was engag'd to alter my condition, by marrying a Gentleman who had made honourable addressees to me for some time. My Lady examin'd very nicely into the matter, by which she found that I could not give an extraordinary account, either of what or who he was : I told her in general, that I had good assurance that he was a Gentleman of an estate, as well as a man of honour. She shook her head, and wish'd that I might not repent of a folly, to which I was hurry'd by my youth, (not being yet eighteen years old) and by my ignorance of the town. I
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had too great an opinion of my own understanding, to think I could be impos'd upon in this matter; and so taking leave of my Lady, I went into private lodgings, whence I and my Lord's gentleman, my future husband and another friend, went out of town, and was marry'd in the country, with all the appearance of joy in both faces. I liv'd with him two months with a great deal of pleasure, he infinitely fond, as I thought, and I therefore not a little happy. He came home one evening extremely out of humour, not with me, but with some disappointments he had met with that day: I press'd him mightily to know the cause of his chagrin; and with much ado he seem'd to force himself to comply with my desire; and pulling a letter out of his pocket, (which I knew was not his hand writing) shew'd it me; there appear'd upon the outside something like a Post-mark; the contents were to ask his pardon for not returning the two hundred pounds he had order'd till a month after: I endeavour'd to pacify him, but to no purpose, for he swore he would turn his steward out of his place for a neglect, by which he was like to be a great sufferer in his honour. I told him that if one hundred Guineas would prevent that, I thought it my duty not to let him be uneasy. After some pause; Well, my dear *Patty*, said he, you infinitely oblige me with this supply; that will be sufficient to save my honour, tho' not answer all my occasions. So having embrac'd me, and taken the money, he

went away, as if to answer those demands that were on him ; but I never saw him nor my money afterwards.

I sat up all the first night, thinking that he might be engag'd at a Tavern amongst his friends ; the day came, but no husband ; and the people of the house being all of them up, I ventur'd to go to sleep, and lay till eleven o' clock ; nor had I been up half an hour, when my Lord's gentleman, who had so great a hand in the making this fatal match, came, as he usually did, to see me and my husband ; he was surpriz'd to hear he had not been at home all night, and was afraid that some mischief had befall'n him ; which fear had tormented me from twelve o' clock till I went to sleep : I told him that he went out with a charge of money about him. My Lord's gentleman said, that he would go to all the haunts of his that he knew, to endeavour to find him out. In about two hours he return'd again, but with a melancholy countenance, the sight of which put me into such a fright, that I thought I should have swooned away, crying out, What news, Mr. *Barton* ? (for that was the Gentleman's name) What news ? Tell me quickly, or I dye away with the frightful imagination ? Where is my Husband ? Is he well ? Alive or dead ? Be not frighted, says Mr. *Barton*, for Mr. *Macknamar* is, for ought I know, in good health, but where he is I know not, but where he ought to be I am loth to speak : In short, Madam, you
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and I have been both deceiv'd in the man who has marry'd you ; for seeking after him at every place where I thought he might be found, I was at last directed to an alchouse in the *Minories*, where they said I should be sure to hear of him. Coming thither, the man of the house inform'd me that he was gone the night before down to *Gravesend*, on board a ship that was bound for *France*, but he was afraid it would set sail before he could arrive there ; if so, he will certainly come back to this place to night. I seem'd so much concern'd at the news, that the man ask'd me if he had bit me of any thing ? I reply'd, no ; but I cannot believe that he would go out of *England* without acquainting his wife one word of the matter. His wife, cry'd out the woman in the bar, which of his wives ? for I believe there are in this town of *London*, many who pretend to that name, and it is confidently affirm'd, that he is actually marry'd to no less than twenty. He never made scruple to marry any woman whom he had a mind to lie with, or had any hopes of getting but twenty pounds by the match. These words of Mr. *Barton* interrupted his narration by my swooning away : he presently call'd the maid, and did all he could to revive me, and bring me to my self ; which when he did I was too impatient, and too much troubled to hear him any farther at that time ; so that he was going to return to the *Minories* in order to secure the villain, if he should come back that night ;

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but at that very instant we heard a woman running up stairs, and crying out that she would see him, ay that she would, and tear out the whores eyes who kept him from his wife; so into the room she came, and had certainly fallen upon me had not Mr. *Barton* interpos'd with more than usual roughness to hinder her; in short, he let her understand that I was really his wife, and that he was present at the marriage; with other words, which brought the Lady to a better temper, who then told us that she was marry'd to him about half a year before, and that having got two hundred pounds of her money, he left her about three months after, under pretence of going out of town upon earnest business; but that having had no letter from him all that time, a friend of hers met him in the street, and dogg'd him to that lodging but the night before; that upon this information she had procur'd a warrant to take him up, which had delay'd her too long to let her find him at home. In short, we let the Gentlewoman know the whole matter, and that he was gone on board, in order to leave *England*; yet there was some hopes remain'd, that he might be driven back again that evening. She readily offer'd her self to go with Mr. *Barton* to the place where he was expected: When they were gone I order'd the maid to let no body else come up till Mr. *Barton's* return, and that if any one enquir'd for Mr. *Macknamar*, she should tell them that he was gone out of town

town the day before, and take no notice of what had pass'd; and it was well I did so, for there was no less than three women more came that very day, upon the same errand; for his staying so long in that lodging as two months, and the little caution he took in going out and in, had made it known to such who were every day upon the hunt after him.

THOUGH this was a terrible shock, and enough to affect any one in my circumstances with pain and confusion, yet I, with whom grief and uneasiness never dwelt long, after crying about an hour, or thereabouts, dry'd up my tears, and began to consider what was now to be done to avoid those evils with which my own rashness and folly now threaten'd me; almost all my money was now gone at once, he leaving me not above three guineas, about five pounds in silver, and my own old hoard of the five broad pieces I have mention'd: I had, indeed, a pretty large stock both of *linen* and *apparel*, a *chest of drawers*, and a *toilet* handsomely set out, but what was this for my support? I thought I might, indeed, return to my Lady, she having not yet provided her self to her satisfaction; but I was too much ashamed of what had pass'd, to think of entering that family any more, and I found that *London* was not the place where I was to raise my fortune to that degree which was agreeable to my desires; I resolv'd therefore to leave *England*, and

go for *Barbadoes*, especially if my Lady would get me letters of recommendation from Mr. *Rogers*, which I did not at all doubt. Being come to this resolution, my passions were pretty well appeas'd, having nothing to fear but that I might be with child: Thro' all other evils I thought I saw a very easy way, and of that I was not extremely apprehensive, having had my fortune told me, that I should never have any children; for tho' there may be nothing in the art of foretelling, yet some things having happen'd, as I thought, according to the prediction, I concluded that all the rest would do so too.

THE first thing I did towards the settling of my disorder'd affairs, was to enquire of my landlady, how our accounts stood with her, in order to remove to some cheaper lodging, and found that he had not paid one farthing since we had been in the house; this, with a score we had at a neighbouring tavern, made up three pounds, which was a great deal out of my small stock, however I discharg'd the whole.

It was near nine o'clock at night before Mr. *Barton* came back, and told me that there was no news to be heard of the fugitive villain, against whom he swore the utmost revenge whenever he could find him; but that was but little comfort to me, or any redress of the evils
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I lay under; so putting off that discourse, I gave him an account of the resolution I had taken of leaving *England*: He endeavour'd to dissuade me from so hazardous a voyage, assuring me that he was confident that my Lady would be very glad to receive me again into my former place; but finding all he could say was to no purpose, he undertook to manage my affairs according to my desire, and so he took his leave for that night.

Mr. *Barton* broke the business to my Lady by her housekeeper, who was mightily troubled at my misfortune; for I behav'd my self so well in the family, that I had the love of all my fellow servants. My Lady said she pity'd me, but that I was a rash and obstinate girl, and had brought this mischief on my own head, of which she her self had forewarn'd me; but however, she was so really concern'd for what had happen'd, that she would make it her endeavour to do her all the service she and my Lord could; and she was as good as her word, and got me such effectual letters of recommendation from Mr. *Rogers*, that they must have been of very great use to me had I ever arriv'd at *Barbadoes*. Mr. *Rogers* likewise gave a particular charge to the master of the vessel I went in, to take particular care of me during my voyage. My Lady farther added a present of twenty guineas, and my Lord gave ten, to buy such things as would be convenient to carry with

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me, which yet I manag'd so ill as not to leave my self money enough, without three of my five broad pieces, to pay my passage; so that when I came on ship-board, I had no more than the two broad pieces, and six shillings in silver, left me; nor indeed had I any occasion for money, having every thing provided that I could want during my voyage.

My Lady would needs see me before I went, and it was with the utmost confusion that I beheld her, and not with a few tears that I parted from her. When I came on board I found four other young women, a Gentleman and his wife, and an elderly Lady, who were to be my fellow passengers. At *Gravesend* we took in two young women more, and one man; not touching any where else till we came to *Plymouth*, our company was there encreas'd with three young women more, and then we pursu'd our voyage with a prosperous gale, and very fair weather, which continu'd with little variation for a month together; tho' most of the other young women, especially when the sea went a little high, were sick, I was perfectly well all the way; and the master told us we were within fourteen days sail of *Barbadoes*, if the wind continu'd fair. When my fellow voyagers had recover'd their seasoning, and were now become conversable, I diverted my self sometimes by enquiring into their fortune, and the cause of their undertaking so long and hazardous a voyage;

age; two or three of them frankly own'd that love was the cause, others confess'd that the hopes of riches, or at least a better fortune than they left behind them, gave them courage to venture so far.

WE kept an exact account of the days after the master had told us how long we were to continue still at sea; and now being about three or four days from the end of our voyage, in the morning early the boy at the *top-mast-head*, cry'd out, *a sail*, and about two hours after they discover'd two more, which gave not the least concern or fear, because it being profound peace they were not in any apprehension of danger; when the ships came nearer, we had the comfort likewise to see that two of them carry'd *English* colours: it was almost night before they came up with us, and then our *master* began to fear that they were *pirates*, and to wish that he had made more *sail* when he had first discover'd them; for though they sail'd much better than we, we might in all probability have had at least a chance of escaping them; but now in the dusk of the evening, they first took down the *English*, and clapt up *Spanish* colours, and then sent off a long boat, with about a dozen men with small fire arms, who made directly to our ship. The master propos'd to his men to fight, but they said it was to no purpose, they having no *guns*, nor any thing fit for an engagement with an enemy that was

visibly so much their superior, both in force and number. You may imagine that we were all in a consternation, expecting nothing but the most cruel and barbarous treatment from so lawless a crew, made up (as the master told us, and as we afterwards found) of people of all nations; however our usage prov'd much better than we expected; for the men in the boat being admitted, kept only possession of her, without any disorder, till the next morning, when the commander in chief came on board us; and finding the women in a great consternation, he very affably desir'd us to lay aside our fear; assuring us, that as soon as ever he could, with safety to himself and his men, he would take care to put us on shore. We were glad to find the chief officer an *Englishman*, and to perceive so much humanity in him; they only enquir'd into the *cargo*, and the provisions, the latter of which they had some occasion for; and leaving us scarcely enough for five or six days subsistence, they remov'd the rest, with all our wine, into their own ships; and I believe had so dismiss'd us, had they not wanted our vessel for an hospital or store-ship; for having several of their men sick, they remov'd them on board us, with about half a dozen prisoners *Frenchmen*, whose ship they had sunk but three days before. Besides this they took away all our seamen and our master, and divided them amongst their own ships, and put as many of their men on board us, as were sufficient to work our ship;

ship; and they had directions to make the best of their way to a certain island in the *South Sea*, which was the place of their rendezvous; the name of which I have forgot, tho' I remember that they said something of *Cape Horne*, so that I suppose this island was not far from that Cape.

OUR new master and his men examining into what stores of provisions we had left, found themselves under a necessity of demanding of their comrades as much as they thought their voyage would require, tho' they were contented with but short allowance. All things being thus settled, the *pirates ships* were soon out of sight, tho' ours crowded all the sail she could, that they might be able to make their voyage whilst our provisions lasted. We sail'd two or three days in pretty good weather, and our new seamen found leisure enough to make their addresses to the young girls; some of them indeed were very handsome, and fresh colour'd, and being wholly at their mercy, were oblig'd to go with them into what part of the ship they pleas'd; for my part I examin'd not what pass'd betwixt them, being sufficiently satisfy'd that I was not so agreeable in their eyes as to be made the victim of their lust; tho' my self, the Gentleman's wife, the old Lady, and two others, were all that escap'd them; and how long we had done so I know not, if their constancy had not held them to their first choice, till the ensuing storm found them other employment. AND

AND indeed a most terrible tempest, with a violent wind, and frequent hurricanes, turn'd our ship even where they pleas'd, and at last I found quite out of their knowledge. All the hands we had were fain to be employ'd to keep her above water; this tempest having continu'd for some days, which was made more terrible by the prodigious claps of thunder, such as I never heard in all my life, and such flashes of lightning, that made us seem to sail through fire it self: But at last the winds began to abate, and a calmer sea to ensue, to our very great comfort: Yet another evil now came upon us, which we did not much think of during the storm, and that was, the fear of starving, for our provisions and water grew so low, that it was impossible we could subsist above three days longer; besides, our ship had suffer'd so much in the past storm that she was very leaky, so that three or four men were continually forc'd to ply the *pumps*; and the master having made his observations, found, that tho' he was in the South Sea, he was yet gone so many leagues beyond his destin'd port, that it was impossible he could go back, both for want of provisions, and the craziness of our ship. But the second day after the storm we were all reviv'd to hear the cry of *Land* from the top-mast head; our master therefore steer'd directly towards the land, tho' perfectly ignorant of what coast it should be; and a brisk gale rising up so exactly for us, that our ship sail'd before the wind. The next

next morning we found our selves within a few leagues of a coast that look'd like a perpetual range of vast high mountainous rocks, without any place where there seem'd a possibility of getting on shore; but one of our men who had a telescope, persuaded us, that he discover'd to the westward of those rocks, a flatter shore, so that we immediately steer'd to that part, where we found a little *creek*, into which we run our ship, with a great deal of joy to all our company, as well *pirates* as others, never considering what country we were cast on, whether inhabited or not, and if inhabited, whether by a people civiliz'd, or barbarous; or if not inhabited, what we should do to subsist, since our provisions were now quite spent.

Not considering, I say, any of these difficulties, we all went on shore, by the consent of our new masters; and going a few spaces up into the country, we were so lucky as to meet with a pretty spring, of whose waters we all took our fill, and found them the most delicious that ever we tasted in our lives, at least they appear'd so to us who had been so long straiten'd in our liquor: We had each of us about half a bisket left, and after we had quench'd the violence of our thirst, we fell to eating of that, as if it had been the best food in the world.

AFTER this repast, our masters began to muster up, and to call over their people, and found

found that in the storm we had only lost three of the sick *pirates*, who, I told you, were put on board us; most of the rest were very weak, and more likely to dye than to live; the *Frenchmen*, and we, were all pretty well, and I was extremely glad to find the old Gentlewoman, who was very good humour'd, and whom I thought the least capable of going through these hardships, the most brisk and jolly of us all. Our master detach'd three or four of his men, arm'd with small guns, up into the country to make discoveries, and the rest went on ship-board, with some of the men prisoners, to bring on shore some conveniences for his sick men to lye on, and to examine into the condition of the ship, now the tide was out, and not above ten foot water in the *creek*. About five o' clock in the afternoon our spies return'd, and brought us word that they had been several miles up the country, but could discover neither man nor beast; but told us that the country it self was certainly a new *paradise*, the air all around being perfum'd by the odoriferous flowers and herbs that grew wild there in great abundance; that the trees were loaded with delicious fruit, of various sizes and colours, but whether good for food or not they durst not try; all that they ventur'd to take was some bunches of grapes, which were the largest and most beautiful that ever we saw; and the spies having tasted them before, we all ventur'd to do the like, that is, as soon as our company had brought us a good handsome

some stock of them. These refreshed us extremely, afforded a sort of nourishment, of which we had then very considerable need. They ventur'd likewise, at their request, to give some of them to the sick men; to whom they were such a cordial, that we presently discover'd new life in their eyes. It grew now towards night, and upon a private debate among themselves, our masters agreed, that those that had a mind to it, might lye on shore, but within call of the ship. The prisoners were all willing to venture themselves on land, being sufficiently tir'd with the past voyage: However, they permitted us to take all the necessaries we found in the ship, for our accommodation in the night: For my part, I did not much care how I lay, not fearing to catch cold, or any other mischief, since I expected to dye of hunger in a few days, which was far more terrible than any distemper I could apprehend from this conduct. The next morning the *pirate* went out again on discoveries, and so did three or four of the *Frenchmen*, who having been kept so short in their allowance on ship-board, were too sharp set to be very cautious in trying the fruit they found on the trees, and by good luck found many of them, not only very savoury, but very nourishing, appeasing their hunger, and satisfying their appetite as well as they could wish, and finishing their banquet with some of the grapes that grew there in great abundance; they loaded themselves as well as they could, and brought

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them to us women; some of the fruit look'd like chesnuts, tho' of a much finer flavour, and richer taste; some had the appearance of very large oranges, but upon cutting them they prov'd solid, and yielded a very noble food: Some of the young lasses, and the Gentleman's wife, were afraid to touch them for fear they should be venomous, even after they had seen me eat heartily of them, being willing (they said) to see what effect they had on me and the *Frenchmen* who had eaten; so they contented themselves with a few of the grapes, which they had before experienc'd to be good and wholesome.

THE night coming on, the remaining pirates were under a great consternation when they found their companions not return'd, and more so, when the night shut in without any news of them; and indeed it alarm'd us all, and made us think of returning into the ship for safety; but it being dark, it was a difficulty not to be got over by the women, who were therefore forc'd to remain upon the land, and the men prisoners staid with us and watch'd us all the night, for fear of any surprize from the suppos'd natives of that place. When the morning came and fully satisfy'd us that we had been afraid of mere imaginary enemies, no creature appearing yet amongst us; we all ventur'd to walk up into the country, men and women: The *pirates*, not much caring what become of us, employ'd themselves entirely in refitting their ship, stopping all the leaks,

leaks, and mending the sails and masts, which had suffer'd very much in the storm : They oblig'd us, however, to bring back with us grapes, and other fruit, enough for their support. This day also pass'd, and no news of the *pirates* who went to view the country the day after our arrival; and indeed it was the sixth day, almost night before they came back, when they brought an account, that they had gone, to the best of their judgment, fifty miles an end, and met with no living creature; they saw indeed sometimes several birds, but came within shot of none; that they found the low-lands of the country edg'd all along on one side with those rocky mountains which we saw by us, and on the other, by the sea; that when they had gone about half way, they beheld a high hill, from whence they hop'd to have a prospect of the whole place, which made them proceed in their journey, tho' they found it much farther in their going, than they imagin'd when they saw the hill, to the top of which, they had a pretty easy ascent for above two miles together; and when they were got up to the very highest part of it, all they could discover, for want of telescopes, was, that the rest of that country seem'd nothing but hills and rocks, and a vast sea beyond them, as well as all round them; by which it was plain, that this was an island, and no continent; so descending from the hill, they made what speed back they could; that the valleys, or low part of the island, was, as they guess'd, no where

broader than seven miles, but every where diversified with little woods or groves, springs and small brooks of delicate water, and a great quantity of fruit of various kinds, with which they supported themselves very well in their journey : We were indeed all surpriz'd, that a place so adapted for convenient and happy living, should be wholly without inhabitants ; and some of us concluded that we were ordain'd to people it ; and the young lasses, with whom the *pirates* had already been familiar, as I told you, seem'd to leave no stone unturn'd to contribute their part towards this work ; for we had little of their company whenever our masters were at leisure from refitting the ship, to divert themselves, and pass their time in such pleasures as were agreeable to them ; and we wish'd indeed that they would have kept them always with them, for when they were with us they were extremely troublesome, thro' that insolence and impudence which they had contracted by their vices, assuming a sort of authority from their familiarity with our present masters, especially one of them, of whom, it seems, the master, or captain, was so fond, that the others call'd her *Governess* ; her name was *Betty Higham*, at least the name that she assum'd ; she was tolerably handsome, and sung pretty well, and was besides an excellent mimick, had a very good stock of assurance, and by her conversation plainly discover'd her former course of life ; and that notwithstanding her pretences of being
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the unfortunate reliſt of a broken merchant of that name; it was too evident that ſhe had publickly intrigu'd, and was forc'd, in all probability, by being an old face in *London*, and quite out of credit, to ſeek a new fortune abroad where ſhe was leſs known.

FURNISH'D with theſe qualities, ſhe had render'd her ſelf miſtreſs of the inclinations, as I have ſaid, of the principal of our maſters; and I from the beginning determin'd to make my advantage of the intereſt ſhe had in him, and therefore much againſt my will, made my court to her, and perſuaded her to engage our captain, not only to furniſh us with all that was neceſſary for our lying on ſhore, but to let us have ſuch trunks and boxes as were able to furniſh us with materials to keep us at work; which ſhe the more eaſily yielded to, by my promiſing that ſhe ſhould have a large ſhare, not only in my cargo of linen, but in my work to make it up. She having ſo good ſucceſs in this, and underſtanding that in the ſhip were found ſeveral *hatchets*, and other tools fit for a joyner or carpenter, we flatter'd her and her comrades ſo effectually, as to get them for our *French* fellow-prisoners, who were engag'd to me, who was the only perſon that ſpoke *French* among us, to build ſome little huts, which might protect us better from the rains than that ſhelter which the trees afforded us. The *French* conſiſted of three joyners, two prieſts and a ſurgeon;

geon; who was afterwards that husband whom I now have. About three or four miles farther up in the country, they had found out a much more pleasant abode than that in which we now were, and to which we got our Governor's permission to retreat. It was a pretty open space, surrounded with groves or woods; in the midst, there was a pretty large spring, which fed a little brook, that in its course run quite thro' the woods northward.

IN this little plain, our builder design'd to fix our new habitations, which they purpos'd to make of a tree they had found out, that was as soft as fir, but of a much finer nature, and which they found would split with abundance of ease. Of this they made a sort of boards, and soon erected four little dwellings; one for the Gentleman and his wife, and another for me and Mrs. *Wright* (for so was the old Gentlewoman call'd) another for the three young lasses that continu'd with us, and a fourth for themselves; but as for the rest we took no manner of care, since they chose generally to lie on ship-board with their lovers. These little huts they cover'd with the broad leaves of a certain tree that grew thereabouts; these leaves were as thick as the canvas of which our sails were made, and about half a yard over. They fix'd up our hammocks, and dispos'd our baggage within our little apartment; they found the greatest difficulty to make us doors, having no hinges nor locks;

locks; but this they supply'd by making ledges above and below, and sliding the door into them, which was easily fasten'd by a pin on the inside. We were all mighty glad when this work was finish'd, as having never till then pull'd off our cloaths, or shifted our selves. Mr. *Walker*, the marry'd Gentleman, gave each of our *French* workmen a clean shirt, for he had with him a large stock, which we had now all on shore. We had also prevail'd with our Governess, as we call'd her, to get her Lords to change the rags in which they had cloath'd them upon their being taken, for their own cloaths again. Madam having done us all these favours, we very ungratefully, and impolitickly too, began to slight and affront her and her sisterhood, which had like to have been fatal to us all; for one of the *Frenchmen* having press'd the grapes, and made some of the most delicious wine in the world of them, presented the *pirates* with a taste of it, who liking it extremely well, order'd them to bring on shore half a dozen empty casks, in which we had had small beer; and beating out the tops of them, and stopping the bung-holes with cork, commanded us to wash them, and fill them with the same juice. All hands were immediately set to work, the men to gather them, and bring them to us, and the women to squeeze them into the vessels; which was not so very laborious a task, because they took care to gather no bunches but what were fully

fully ripe; and we had, besides, the hands of all the madams to help us on this occasion.

THE vessels being all full, we had immediate orders to remove two or three of them towards the ship, which with much ado was at last effected; and the *pirates* having been a great while without wine, had no patience to stay till it was fine, but fell to drinking of it upon the *lee*. This opportunity *Betty Higham* took to be reveng'd upon the affronts (for so she call'd our slighting and avoiding her company) and made her complaints with the utmost inveteracy against all of us; intimating, that she wonder'd that since we were slaves as well as they, that they did not take the same privilege with us, but leave us the vanity of our suppos'd virtue, to insult them for their willing obedience to their master's commands. The *pirates* being warm with the wine, and vitious in their own nature, approv'd the hint, and thought four or five fresh women would compleat their entertainment; they therefore sent immediately two other women to command our attendance, who perform'd their message in a most haughty manner; telling us, that we should no longer pretend an excellence above them, since the *Governess*s had found this way to humble us; but when we made a difficulty of obeying, they plainly told us, that if we would not go with them, we might expect to be dragg'd thither by some of the men, and perhaps murder'd when they had had their will

will of us. This frightened the three young lasses that remain'd with us so far, that they went with them. When they were gone, Mr. *Walker*, Mr. *Wright* and I, went directly to our men, who were at work a little farther in the woods, to consult with them what we should do on this occasion; who advis'd us, by all means, to go up farther into the country, and hide our selves, as well as we could, in the thickets, to avoid their fury at least that night, hoping that the next day, when they were sober, they might be prevail'd on to take more gentle resolutions; so we all together went farther on, about two mile, and bending towards the mountains, we came to a little wood that was so thick with under-wood that we could not get into it; but one of our guards going round it, he found at last a little inlet, through which, by the help of their hatchets, they might be able to get us in one by one; which they did, with some difficulty; and the better to secure us, they trampled about for a quarter of a mile farther, to leave the print of their footsteps, to mislead our pursuers to the next coppice, where they ended. By that time all this was done, and we got into our place of safety; we heard three or four of them come running and hallooing, swearing and cursing; but striving in vain to get into our little wood, they swore bloodily that we could not be there, since there was not room for even a mouse to get in; so they went on to the coppice I spoke of, where ha-

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ving sufficiently torn their cloaths, and scratched their hands, legs and faces, we heard them return cursing us to hell, swearing they would seek no farther after us that night, having whores enow already to serve 'till next morning.

WE were glad to hear them go back again, but kept our selves close in our lurking place till good part of the next morning was over; but certainly never was so dreadful a night pass'd, not for the thunder and lightning, for we had much greater in the storm at sea; but for the strange noises that seem'd to come out of the ground, which it self appear'd to tremble beneath us.

WHAT I am going to tell you, Sir, may seem incredible to one that has not been us'd to read the several alterations that happen in the earth; the sea sometimes swallowing up whole countries, and sometimes casting up, as it were, whole islands in a night, where there was no land before. This, if I may give credit to the accounts I have read, has happen'd in the *Archipelago*, and several other parts of the world; which, with the finding of sea-shell in the inland countries, has made some believe that the sea and the earth have chang'd places; but be that as it will, I am witness to this which I am going to tell you, and owe to it one of the greatest deliverances that ever I had in my life.

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I told you just now of our retreat into the thicket, to avoid the rage and lust of the *pirates*; but having staid there the next day 'till near noon, without hearing any thing of them, it was agreed to send one of our party out to gain intelligence how things stood, and MONSIEUR DUBOURDIEU proffer'd himself to be the man; he return'd again in a little more than an hour, full of amazement, and telling us that we might all quit our lurking place, since our enemies, in all probability, were no more, but swallow'd up, ship and all, in the earthquake that we felt something of last night, or were overwhelm'd with that vast quantity of earth that had risen up and cover'd all that part of the island where they were, and reach'd even as far, within a few furlongs, as our last settlement. Upon his assurances, full of thanks for our escape, we all came out into the open country, and went back to see the strange revolution in our little world; and were stricken with unspeakable terror and wonder at the sight we beheld, finding that all the country, from our settlement to the sea, had entirely chang'd its face; and that in the night, in the midst of those terrible noises which we heard, the sea or earth had thrown up prodigious mountains for twelve miles together; that is, from the most *Westerly* point of those rocks. We saw at our coming hither, even six miles beyond the main land of the island to the *West*, by which jetting out into the sea there was

form'd a sort of a haven, or calm road, protected against all winds but the *West* and *Northwest*; that from the height of these mountains, in all probability, there had tumbled down such vast quantities of earth, as to have cover'd all the low-land, and part of the sea, for betwixt three and four miles broad, and so rais'd the surface by an easy ascent up to the mountains themselves.

WE view'd all this so long, that we were almost stupid with the confusion which it gave us; blessing our good fortune that had made us fly so far from this dangerous neighbourhood; and tho' the *pirates* and their Ladies were a parcel of most profligate wretches, we could not but pity their terrible fate, which had so on a sudden sunk them in the midst of their sins; but our own proper fears soon banish'd these considerations, and made us think of removing to some other settlement, farther from this direful place; but since we could not presently carry away our effects, we were content to go only with our hammocks some few miles from it, 'till we had fix'd upon a convenient situation: And upon a full debate of the matter, we came to this resolution, that we would settle as near as we could to the middle of the island; so our Gentlemen, in a few days, found out a pleasant hillock or rising ground, something more than two miles from the *Western* sea, and above
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three from that range of rocks which ran cross the country to the *East*; and much about the mid-way, between the *North* and the *South* side of the island. Near this we fix'd our hammocks, under the shelter of the adjacent woods, 'till we could be provided with better lodgings; which our Gentlemen went about with the utmost expedition, every one of them labouring hard to contribute to the finishing of the work. But the first thing they did was to frame four sorts of carriages, to which the joiners made broad low wheels, as well as they could; and with these, in a little time, brought away our baggage, and what other things were necessary for our work. They resolv'd now not to make four different huts, as before, but one contiguous building; and tho' they labour'd with a great many difficulties for want of iron-work, yet, with a great deal of industry and pains, they supply'd that defect, and in about three month's time compleated a tolerable habitation, and we settled in our new abode with a great deal of satisfaction.

OUR house being thus finish'd, our men, to keep themselves employ'd, and make our habitation the more convenient, went upon furnishing it with tables, and such seats as they could make, 'till we had all things that were absolutely necessary for our accommodation.

Mr.

MR. *Walker*, his Lady, and the old Gentlewoman could speak no *French*, nor could the *Frenchmen* at first speak any *English*, but in time they came to speak it intelligibly; 'till when, most of the conversation run thro' my hands, I being interpreter to them all, tho' they were every one full of the complaisance, so usual in those of that nation; yet *Monsieur Dubourdieu* discover'd a more than ordinary civility to, and care of me, nor did he at last make any scruple of declaring, that he had a peculiar love for me.

ONE day when the men were gone out for provisions, or a walk, and we women were left alone, Mrs. *Walker* discover'd a very great uneasiness at her present condition, and express'd her fear that she should never get from this place. I did what I could to comfort her, and told her, that I thought our present state something better than that of our first parents after the Fall, they being more solitary for several years together, since there was no other people in the world but themselves, nor could expect any 'till their children were grown up fit for conversation; but we were a pretty jolly company, and were not without hopes we might be deliver'd by the chance arrival of some ship. True, said she, but that is very uncertain, since I find, that the *pirates* themselves, who are us'd to these seas, knew nothing of this island; so that there
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is more probability of the decrease than the increase of our company. Oh, Madam, said I, as long as you live, I hope we shall every now and then increase by a little one from you, since I find, at last, an instance of it from your being with child. That will be but slow work, interpos'd Mrs. *Wright*, unless you add to the number of our breeders, by marrying *Monsieur Dubourdiou*, who has long express'd his love for you. I would fain have diverted the discourse, but the old Gentlewoman went on; you find, said she, that he is the only person among the six men whom you can make choice of for a husband; the three joiners you hear, are, by their own confession, marry'd men; and the two priests, you know, according to their Religion, can have no wives: Nor, said I, is *Monsieur Dubourdiou* like to have one in me, he is too much a stranger for me to entertain any such thoughts about him, and I have suffer'd too much already, by being credulous of the professions of mankind.

THIS was the sum of that day's discourse, which Mrs. *Walker* told her husband, and in that, the rest of the company; as soon as they came to us, *Monsieur Dubourdiou* return'd them thanks for their good offices, and desir'd earnestly that they would renew them, nor give over 'till they had vanquish'd my obstinacy: They perfectly comply'd with his desire, nor would let me alone; 'till having had sufficient

cient experience of his good temper, and verily believing that I should have better fortune with him, than I formerly had, either with the *English* or *Irishman*; in the beginning of the third year, I consented to become his wife, and the ceremony was perform'd by the elder of the two priests, who could speak the best *English*, and who was forc'd to satisfy me, in performing it over again, according to my *Common-Prayer Book*.

THIS year was remarkable, not only for my marriage, but for the birth of Mr. *Walker's* child, tho' the last was as melancholy an incident, as the first was merry; for tho' we brought the child alive into the world, it liv'd not many days; and the mother, to the unspeakable sorrow of the husband, dy'd before the end of the month; we buried her with all the solemnity that we were able, but could never appease Mr. *Walker's* grief as long as he liv'd, which was not many months after his wife: His death happen'd in the following manner.

THE men having work'd themselves entirely out of employ, knew not what to do with themselves; but rambled up and down every day, from one part of the island to another. The *pirates* about two days before their miserable catastrophe, had been rowing about in the long boat by the North side of the island, in hopes to discover some other part of it; but having
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row'd about twenty miles to no purpose, they came back again, and doubling the Westward point, they put on shore in a little creek that run about a quarter of a mile within the land, where they fasten'd her in about two foot water, designing the next day, or a day or two after, to renew their enquiry, and go farther on the Northward coast, but were prevented, I suppose, by some other thoughts, and so never went again. This boat was found in the same place by some of our company, almost three years after, and it was agreed among them to go out the same way from her, which the *pirates* had gone, to try to make some discovery, and the rather, because when they had been some time upon the North hill, formerly mention'd, they either heard, or thought they heard, the sound of trumpets, or some instruments like them: Accordingly the three joyners, one of the priests, and Mr. *Walker*, putting provisions enough on board to serve them two days, especially a large quantity of grapes, they row'd away, but how far they went, or what became of them, we could never learn, for they return'd no more to us: This was a great diminishing to our little company, which was now reduc'd to four persons; *viz.* the priest who had no mind to go upon this expedition, the old Gentlewoman, my husband, and my self.

WE had nothing remarkable for above two years more, the same things happening to us every

ry day over and over again, with very little variation, which afforded nothing worth relating ; we eat of the fruit, and drank of the purling stream, sometimes moderately improv'd with the juice of the grape, which we got and preserv'd in little vessels, with which nature furnish'd us ; for there grew a sort of fruit upon a stalk which lay upon the ground, much like our pompions in *England*, tho' near as large again as any that I ever saw ; the outer rind was pretty hard, so that they were forc'd at first to use hatchets to cleave them open, in order to see what they contain'd ; besides this outer rind, which was something like the shell of a nut, tho' ten times thicker than any that I know of, there were two other rinds, about two inches thick each, and near as soft as that of a melon ; under all these there was a very pleasant food, of which one of the joyners ventur'd to taste, invited by the fineness of its smell, and we all follow'd, he having made the experiment ; and it is observable, that we never met with any thing noxious among all the fruits and herbs, which were in plenty in this place, most of which, some of us tasted at one time or other ; the upper rind of this fruit was as easily clear'd of all it contain'd, when open'd, as a nut-shell is of the kernel ; our workmen therefore, instead of splitting them, as at first, saw'd off the head, and so made compleat vessels that held about three or four gallons, and these we fill'd with the juice of the grape, of which we made two sorts, one, by laying a
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great heap of bunches full ripe upon one another on a clean table, and the weight of the grapes press'd one another, whilst our vessels beneath caught the juice as it fell; and when no more came away by this means, we squeez'd them with our hands, but kept these two juices asunder in different vessels, for there was indeed a great deal of difference in the wine; but to preserve our liquor the better, they digg'd a pretty cave in the side of a bank, and there we plac'd our wine, having first cover'd it with the upper part of the shell, around which was fix'd a sort of a hoop, and in the middle of it a handle to take it off and put it on; There was some of this wine left, which we made in the second year, even when I left the island, for it was of a very strong body, and would have kept, I believe, twenty years, sixteen I am sure it did, for so long after it was, before I was deliver'd from this solitude. I have already told you how our company was reduc'd; but fortune was not yet satisfy'd, nor was I come to the heighth of my tryal, 'till I was left quite alone: The next two that I lost, was the priest and my husband, tho' it was above two years after before I had that affliction.

THE priest, and Mr. *Dubourdiou*, went daily out a walking, either to the sea side Westward, to see if they could discover any ship, or sometimes to the North-west hill on the same errand, but it was long before they ventur'd upon the new

hill that was risen upon the South-west part; but at last seeing it all over green, they went up to the top of it, and from its height look'd out for ships, but to no purpose; this being too far for a day's walk, without a great fatigue, they would not venture to stay long for fear of frightening us by their absence, without letting us know of it beforehand; but they agreed to go on purpose to stay a day or two, in order to search it from one end to the other; accordingly, in about a week's time, they went, and return'd in three days after, giving us this account; That the hill thrown up in the night, was about twelve miles long, and three miles in the declivity; that going to the most easterly part of it, they came within ten foot of the mountainous rocks that were there before; that being there by day break, they heard the most harmonious musick, both vocal and instrumental, that could be imagin'd on this side heaven: The priest, who had been in *Italy*, and present at all the performances of both voices, and musick, which were eminent in that country, declar'd, that they were all insipid and flat, in comparison of what he had now heard; and they both told us, it seem'd to them to pass on like a procession, tho' it was of some hours continuance.

THIS had rais'd our curiosity so far, that we resolv'd to take a journey with them, to participate of the same pleasure: Accordingly, we walk'd

walk'd the first day to our former habitation, and resting there all night, began our walk to the top of the hill by the very first appearance of daylight; but nothing could we hear of their boasted harmony, except some distant sounds of wind instruments, which was so faint that we could not determine whether it was really so, or only the effect of fancy; so that tir'd with our waiting to no purpose, we came down again, and spent the rest of the day in the shade, and the night in our old huts, and the morning following we set forward for home.

THE priest and my husband, notwithstanding our bantering them, and endeavours to persuade them that all they had told us was nothing but a pleasant dream, they persisted in the fact; and, upon many deliberations, concluded that it must be the inhabitants in the mountainous parts, who were that morning, when they heard the musick, performing some solemn festival perhaps to the *Moon*, since it was much about the *new Moon* when they heard it, and therefore they resolv'd to be at the same place the next change of the same planet.

THEY went accordingly, but were again disappointed, hearing nothing but those distant sounds which we had imagin'd that we also had heard; All which had heighten'd their curiosity

riosity so far, that they resolv'd to endeavour to make a discovery of what was conceal'd in those mountains. All the difficulty was how to get upon them, for betwixt the new mountains and the old ones, there was a sort of a gap or chasm, which they judg'd to be about ten or twelve foot over, and above fifteen deep; they concluded therefore to lay a sort of a bridge a-cross it: And in order to it cut down one of the light trees, whose body was above fifteen foot high, but so small, that when they had cut it out it was not much above half a foot broad; however, with a pole of the same length, and each his *hatchet* stuck in his girdle, they went upon this new expedition, much against my inclinations, and contrary to my desires. The day after they were gone I had a mind to follow them, but my old Gentlewoman was taken so ill, that she could think by no means of so long a jaunt, nor could I think of leaving her alone when she was not well; so I determin'd to wait with patience the return of our men. Mrs. *Wright* grew worse and worse every day, and I more impatient to know what was become of my husband: In short, in a little more than a week's time, worn out with age and her evil fortune, she gave up the ghost. But before she dy'd, observing my grief, she took me by the hand, and begg'd me not to give too much way to sorrow, but preserve my self for better fortune; which, in time, she was confident would be my lot, at least if I
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thought it better fortune to be restor'd from this solitude to a more habitable part of the world; but as for her part, she was very well content to die in these unknown regions of the earth, being as near to heaven there as any where else; so charging me not to throw away hope, and commending her self earnestly to her Maker, she expir'd.

It was with some difficulty that I digg'd a hole capable of receiving her body; which, however, I at last effected just without our little house, and putting her into it, cover'd her up.

I was thus left all alone to bemoan and lament my unhappy state, which I did for some days; but this irksome solitude growing more familiar to me, and grief, which seldom lay long in my bosom, wearing off, I resolv'd to go towards those parts whither my husband and the priest were already gone, and where my fondness gave me hopes that I might find some footsteps of them. I had no great care as to taking provision with me, since the trees every where afforded me food as I went along; and the springs, which were very frequent, all the liquor I desir'd; putting therefore a little goblet in my pocket, with a knife, I loaded my self with the lightest hammock I had, and set forward by break of day; and resting all the heat under the shade of the trees, I went
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on again till the evening; when fixing my hammock on two trees, I rested very heartily all night, being sufficiently tir'd with my walk, tho' not above ten miles. The next morning I proceeded on my journey, and that day reach'd ten miles more, as well as I could guess, that is, within two miles of the foot of the mountain; there again I fix'd up my hammock, and rested as before. As soon as day appear'd I got up, gather'd some fruit to eat, and some grapes to supply the place of drink; and putting them in my handkerchief I went on, and got at last up the mountain, which was an easy ascent for about three miles together; where refreshing my self with eating the viands I had brought with me, and resting a while I turn'd towards the *East*, and went forward 'till I came to its extremity; but all that I could find by this great fatigue was a pole and plank laid across that gap in the mountain which I formerly mention'd; on the left hand of which there was nothing dreadful, since it was not above fifteen foot deep; but to the right a most fearful precipice, which was the only thing that hinder'd me from pursuing them over the plank, the very sight of the precipice making my head giddy; I was therefore forc'd to sit down and bewail my misfortunes, the very best I having to hope, being that they were got safely over; tho' doubtless, by their long stay, they must be fallen into the hands of the inhabitants of that country, if any,

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with whom, what fate they had met, was now my only fear; so after some hours I return'd down the hill, and came to my last lodging. I could not be satisfy'd without returning next morning by day-break, to the very same place, resolving to try to pass the plank my self, but when I came there I was surpriz'd by that heavenly musick which my husband and the priest had so often talk'd of, and which, still passing forward, continu'd till near noon, and went from me by degrees, till quite out of my hearing; then I look'd again at the passage, but being quite dizzy with the prospect, I was fain to throw my self immediately backward; or I had fallen down I know not how many fathom deep. Being come to my self I began to consider of what I had heard, and drew thence this comfort; that if there were inhabitants in that part of the island, they were certainly of a very humane kind, since they could not have that charming musick among them, and yet retain any thing barbarous and cruel; wherefore I determin'd to return to my own home, and wait with patience the coming back of my husband and his friend, which I persuaded my self would be as soon as they could find any means of escaping; so I went back again, and rested my self that night; the next morning I set forward, and by easy journies reach'd again to my house; where I divided my time betwixt prayers and such other employment, as was necessary for my subsistence.

sistence. I spent much time in reading those few books which I had by me, especially the Holy Bible, in which I found great comfort; sometimes I took pen, ink, and paper, of which I had a stock by me, brought out of *England* for my own use in *Barbadoes*. The subject of my writing was to give an account of all that I could remember had happen'd to me during my whole life, to that very time; which I did partly for an amusement, and partly that if any one else should come upon that coast after I was dead, they might find my story.

It was above three years before I saw my husband again, and the greatest uneasiness I had during all that time, was, that I should lose the use of my tongue by so long a silence; but to prevent that evil, (for such a woman thinks it) I frequently talk'd to my self; I often sung both *French* and *English* songs: And when I took any books in my hand, I always read aloud, and pronounc'd my words as distinctly as if I had other auditors to hear me.

DURING these three years of solitude I had nothing happen'd to me that deserves a particular narration. When the three years were over, and some odd months, sitting at my door towards the evening, under the shelter of such trees as had been planted about it, I was not a little surpriz'd and frighten'd, to see two naked men make towards me; I immediately ran in a-doors, and fastned my self as well as I could,

could, and was, with some difficulty persuaded by my husband and his friend (whose voices at last I knew) to open the door and come out to them; however I immediately got such linen garments as I had formerly made, and gave them my husband out of the window, and when they were clothed came out to them. I need not tell you the joy of our meeting, after so long an absence, and when I had given over almost all thoughts of ever seeing him again. After our first embraces were over, I gave him my scissors to cut off his beard; for he had no other instrument all the time since our shipwreck, or landing on that coast, to perform that office; the priest was resolv'd to let his beard grow 'till he came into *France*, which he said he verily believ'd he should do before he dy'd,

THIS night of our meeting, seem'd the most comfortable that ever I knew in my Life, folding in my arms the husband I lov'd, and who lov'd me entirely. After I thought him lost, you may be sure I was inquisitive enough into their adventures since they left me; particularly what sort of inhabitants they had found, and what had detain'd them so long from me. They told me that they had certainly been in *Paradise*, that the inhabitants were perfect *Angels*, and yet nothing kept them so long away but their being under a sort of confinement till the hour of their return. The particulars of all this I

shall refer to my husband's account, who was better able to describe what he had seen with his own eyes, and heard with his own ears, than I, what I only had by relation.

HERE my landlady made an end; and having inform'd her husband how far she had gone in their story, desir'd him to give a full account of all that pass'd afterwards, 'till their arrival and settlement in *Paris*; but this was reserv'd 'till the next day, when after dinner my landlord *Dubourdiou* thus began.

I have nothing to acquaint you with, Sir, relating to my self or family, or any of my affairs in *France*; they contain nothing remarkable enough to deserve your notice; let it suffice, that my father being a citizen of *Bordeaux*, had me bred a Surgeon, hoping to prefer me to his Majesty's service sooner that way than any other; however, meeting but with little Practice, I resolv'd to take the opportunity of a ship bound for *Martinico*, hoping in that new settlement to make my fortune: It being a time of peace, tho' our ship was a pretty good burthen, and carry'd fifteen guns, yet expecting no enemy, she was but ill provided with ammunition and men fit for an engagement, yet she made a pretty good defence against the three *pirate ships* which attack'd her, and had it not been for an unlucky shot which took her betwixt wind and water, I believe we had made

made our escape, but now sinking in the midst of the fight, all her men perish'd; except six of us, who were taken up by the *pirates*, and put aboard one of their ships. The day before, the *English* ship, in which my wife was, fell into their hands; all that past afterwards, to the time of my return to my wife, she has given you an account of; I shall therefore begin my narration at our passing the gap in the mountains, of which she has told you.

WHEN the priest and I were got over the plank, and fix'd our footing on the other side, we had some difficulty to get down a steep place of about five or six yards, and which, like a wall or rampart, surrounded the inhabited part of the island; but having got down on the firm land, as I may call it, we advanc'd to the brow of the hill, whence we had a full survey or prospect of the most beautiful and charming country that our eyes ever beheld; hence we began our progress down thro' pleasant groves, or frequent groupes of trees, for above a mile together; proceeding on still, near the end of another mile, we were surpriz'd; and frighten'd too, to see at our backs three huge animals, that at first appear'd to us to be *Lyons*, but coming up with us, they did no more than take hold of the lapet of our coats, or linen garments we had on, and thus led us down to the foot of the hill; above half a mile farther; they at last brought us into a plain, where

where there were thousands of people, some in an adjacent pool or pond, and others on its banks, men, women and children, and all stark naked ; the men were all tall, and seem'd to us of a larger size than generally our *Europeans* are, but of a perfect symmetry, and their eyes seem'd to carry a perfect awe and majesty in them ; their hair was generally of a light brown, curling in ringlets a little below their shoulders ; that of the women something more yellow, and falling down even to their waists ; not without frequent curls, which made it the more grateful. The women were all crown'd with chaplets of beautiful flowers, and the men had no weapon in their hands but a sort of a white staff, about seven foot in length, at the end of which was fixt a sort of cutting hook, with which I found afterwards they shear'd and trimm'd the trees. As soon as our *Lyons* had brought us into their presence, they let go their hold, and about a dozen men surrounded us without coming very near us. The whole company seem'd as much surpriz'd at our company, as we were at theirs : And one of them spoke to us looking with a stern countenance, but we understood not what they said ; but we was inform'd afterwards they demanded of us who, and what we were ? Whence we came ? And how we got thither ? Their country being surrounded by vast and unpassable seas ; as they then thought them. All that we could do was to make shew of an humble submission, and signs

signs of our begging their mercy and protection; so they separating again pointed to the *Lyons*, and utter'd some words, upon which two of them came and seiz'd us by the garments, as before, without doing us any farther injury. One of the company went on before, and beckon'd us to follow him, which we did, being still held by our guardian *Lyons*: As we pass'd on, the whole company open'd to the right and left, to let us go thro' them, without touching of them; which, it seems, they thought an abomination before we had been purify'd, according to the custom of that country, or rather according to the precepts of their laws, since that can scarce be call'd a custom which had not been done before in the memory of any one then living. Our guide conducted us some miles to a little plain, or open space, surrounded by a sort of quick-set hedge, or dwarfish trees; in the midst of it there was a sort of a fountain, or little pond, very clear, and about half the depth of a man: As soon as we were enter'd this little plain, our *Lyons* let us go, in obedience to a nod from our guide, and plac'd themselves on each side the entrance; and then our guide leaping into the fountain, wash'd himself, and went out on the other side; when he was out he made signs to us to do the same, which stripping our selves we soon did, to the great amazement of the native, who, as we afterwards understood, thought we had pull'd off our outward skins, having

having no manner of notion of cloaths. By that time we had done this, there came two other natives with little baskets of fruit, which they set down, and jumping into the fountain as the other had done, they went out likewise on the other side, making signs to us to eat and refresh our selves with the fruit they had brought; which, while we were doing, they all three went away, without coming near us, but left our guard at the entrance, who kept their posts without ever stirring away. By that time we had done our repast, and got up to look about us, we found the whole enclosure surrounded by those terrible animals, tho' not one of them ever attempted to come nearer to us; the fruit they brought us was the most delicious in the world, much more excellent both for taste and flavour, than what we had met with in our part of the island. In the middle of this hedge that surrounded us, there was a small bower, which entering, we found above two foot thick of the most sweet fragrant flowers that could be found; and this place we concluded was to be our nightly abode.

ABOUT an hour before night we had more provisions brought us, and our former baskets remov'd; which, as soon as the bearer had set down, he plung'd into the fountain, wash'd himself, got out, and went away. It being now dusky, we heard that heavenly harmony all around us, of vocal and instrumental music,

sick, made up by the voices of men, women, and children; but such voices that are not certainly to be found any where in the world but here: And we having said our Prayers retir'd into our bower, and throwing our selves upon our bed of flowers, after a little discourse, we went to sleep, notwithstanding the evil neighbourhood of those creatures which surrounded us.

IN the morning, by break of day, we were awak'd by the same divine musick; which about noon we heard again, as we did also at night, and so for every day while we stay'd among them. We had constantly fresh food brought us three times a day, and a sort of little cups, out of which we drank our water; not from the fountain, or pond, which I mention'd to be in the middle of our enclosure, but from a little brook which empty'd it self into that pond; whose waters were kept at a certain height, by emptying themselves into another little channel on the other side, in proportion to what they receiv'd from the former.

WE had observ'd that whoever came to us, not only never approach'd us, but as soon as they had set down what they brought, leap'd into the pond, wash'd themselves, and went away, and three times a day made us do the same; from which we concluded that they

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took us for a sort of impure animals, which were not to be convers'd with 'till we were sufficiently purify'd by the waters of that place; and which indeed was the only superstition that we ever discover'd amongst them. One thing was remarkable, that our guard of beasts always left us as soon as it was day, and came again just before the close of the evening, excepting two, which were always found at the entrance of the enclosure.

It was two months before ever our human keepers vouchsaf'd to speak to us, except by signs; but after that, we had generally one or other with us, except at the time of morning prayer, and repast at noon-tide prayer and dinner, 'till evening prayer and supper call'd them away. In those intervals they did what they could to make us learn something of their language; but we found it so difficult, that it was almost two years before we became masters of it. By that time we had been there two months, our linen garments being pretty much sully'd, we agreed to lay them by, and go naked, as the natives did; hoping by that means to ingratiate our selves more with them, by following their manners, than by being tenacious of our own. And by this time our beards were grown to a great length, as well as the nails of our toes and fingers, besides the face and head, and all those parts where hair generally grows. The priest's whole body
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was extremely hairy, tho' mine was not so, which gave our new masters a fresh surprize: Indeed we made but a scurvy figure, a very mean appearance, in comparison of the natives. They were tall and handsome, finely limb'd, and no hair about them but on their heads: We were both little men, our heads and faces almost cover'd with hair, and his body all over so, that they scarce look'd upon us to be of the same species: Tho' now they began to converse a little with us, it was at some distance, as if they fear'd some contagion from us, if they approach'd nearer; however they seem'd very desirous to make us understand them; and we employ'd all our apprehension to gratify them on our part; but still whenever they left us they leap'd into the fountain, wash'd themselves, and went away. When we were alone we walk'd round our enclosure, to view, as far as we could, the country about us, and we saw perpetually passing by us men, women and children, all naked, and without the least covering about them. The women were extremely beautiful, both as to face and shape; the colour of their skins was not swarthy, as might be expected, from their going naked in so warm a clime, tho' there was a sort of an olive tincture in them; their eyes were brisk and penetrating, their limbs exactly proportion'd, without any deformity among them. We were about breast high, cover'd with the hedge or dwarfish trees that went a-

bout our enclosure; so that all they saw of us was very hairy, which was what they never saw before in their lives. We perceiv'd very plainly, that tho' they endeavour'd to conceal it, they all cast a side-long glance at us. After we had continu'd about five months, we were led back to that pool which we first saw at our coming down the hill, but no body about it but the three natives; who, with our *Lyons*, conducted us thither, and there we were oblig'd to wash our selves for two hours together, and found in our swimming about that the water was brackish, and therefore must have some secret communication with the adjacent sea. This pool, we perceiv'd afterwards, was by custom, or superstition, a place in which all the inhabitants of the island purify'd themselves twice every year.

FROM thence we were re-conducted to our lodging, but our masters then ventur'd to come closer to us, and every day endeavour'd, with abundance of diligence, to instruct us in their language; and when we could understand them tolerably well, they seem'd very inquisitive to know what we were? Whence we came? And how we got thither? In all which we endeavour'd to give them what satisfaction we could, with that little part of their language which we understood; but being at last good masters of it, we gave them an account of our country, religion, and manners, and also of our voyage
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to that place. We had much ado to make them understand what a ship was, and how it was possible for us to pass so many worlds of seas as should take us up near seven months in our passage, and that without seeing land once in all that time; but they seem'd amaz'd not only at so strange a passage where no tract could direct them, but that men should venture their lives in so small a machine so far from their own country. They frequently ask'd us what could be the motive to so hazardous an undertaking? And said that surely we inhabited some miserable climate, that we should chuse to fly from it thro' so many dangers.

We did all we could to make them understand that it was in pursuit of gain and riches for which we did this; but we could by no means make them comprehend what gain and riches were. They ask'd us whether we wanted food in our own country, and were forc'd on that account to seek it abroad! We told them it was not that, but the earnest desire of having more than what was absolutely necessary, that made us venture so far; since large possessions and great abundance did not only gain the respect and veneration of those who had not the same advantage, but even an authority over them. This likewise seem'd to puzzle them, for they could not form an idea of any pleasure and satisfaction that there should be in those things; but to give them the bet-
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ter notion of it, we proceeded to give them an account of our manners and condition: That envy, malice, ambition, avarice and lust, rul'd absolutely in our parts of the world; and that he who was not in some measure a slave to any of them, was look'd upon either as contemptible, or indeed very miserable.

I find, said one of them, that you are of the number of the children of wrath, of which we have an obscure traditional account, tho' we could scarce believe it, 'till your words now confirm the fact. Oh! wretched generation, with whom reason has so little power, and passion so much. How happy are we, who want nothing that's necessary to life, nor have any desire or wishes for what we do not want.

AFTER some of these conversations we were admitted to more liberty, and allow'd a greater freedom of going among the natives in general, at least in those parts which were not far from our first lodgings, whither we were every night conducted and guarded with our *Lyons*. I call them *Lyons*, not that they were really so; but because their heads and manes were more like *Lyons* than any other creature I know of; but by their temper and condition they might rather be call'd dogs, tame and domestick animals, and were much more terrible in their aspect than in their nature: As for their food, they liv'd not upon flesh, but upon the fruit and

and herbage of the country, and therefore their teeth were not made like those of *Lyons*, or dogs, or any other voracious animal; they were mighty tractable and obedient to the beck of their masters, and were bred so, that they every day went their rounds about the hills; by which means we first fell into their custody. We saw several other animals, both birds, and four-footed beasts, tho' none of them like any we have in our parts of the world; they were all tame, and would come to the hand.

THERE was one thing remarkable among one sort of the birds, and that was, whenever any vocal or instrumental musick began, they constantly joyn'd in the chorus, and that with a very agreeable voice. They were very like our parots, but much larger; and by the frequent repetition of the morning, noon, and evening songs, they had learn'd the very words, and sung them.

By a frequent conversation, I found that the people of this place had no form of government among them, but liv'd like that colony of the *Sidonians*, mention'd in the book of *Judges*; that is, without magistrates, or any rule, which might contradict the inclinations of every particular or individual. And indeed there was no occasion for magistrates, when there was no ground for contention; there being no property among them, but a perpetual and

and uninterrupted course of a perfect love of one another. What the earth produc'd was a sufficient stock, plentifully to provide for their subsistence; and their cultivation of these products was so far from being laborious to them, that it was only their exercise and diversion. In the cool of the morning, after the first prayers were over, and their first repast, the men went all out to prune the trees, and them into such forms and figures as they thought fit; and which they did with those white staves, headed by a sort of hooks, as I describ'd them at my first coming down. These hooks were not made of iron, but of a certain stone, very hard and close, and wrought to an edge; so that they cut very well, and did the business as well as any of our gardiner's tools can do; the natives managing them with extraordinary dexterity, as will be plain from what I shall tell you hereafter.

WHILE the men were thus employ'd, the women were taking care of their children, to instruct them both in the principles of religion, and what other duties were necessary for their future conduct; but their duties not being many, the precepts they were to learn were but few.

THO' I have said they had no property, yet that must be understood in the lands, or in the product; for in their women, or wives, they

they had, and that so sacred, that no one ever invaded it, so that adultery was a crime unknown among them. I observ'd that every man had but one wife, so that in all probability the births of males and females were pretty equal; as there was this exception to what I told you of their having no property, so there is another to what I said of their having no magistrates, tho' this indeed is scarce an exception. The oldest men among them were the heads of their families, or little tribes, and to them there was a respect and deference paid, and all publick actions were directed by them; as genetal meetings, approbation of marriages, the order of all solemnities, and who should speak or dance in them. They also had the chief place in their publick meetings, or feasts, and deliver'd to them their thoughts and sentiments in religious matters; something after the way of our sermons; the substance of which was upon God, and exhortations to mutual love, and their duty to one another; and this was generally done after their temperate meals were over, so that they should be at perfect ease to attend to what they heard. When there were none of these discourses, and the talk was promiscuous, the conversation still run upon the discoveries they had made in their contemplations, and then hearing such doubts and difficulties as the younger sort propos'd; and this held them 'till the heat of the day was pretty well over, and then the young men

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went to their task of pruning and cultivating their trees and ground, and the women to instruct their children; the virgins often accompany'd their lovers in their work, and there heard their addresses. When a young man and virgin were agreed to marry, they then propos'd it to the father and mother of both; whose consent having obtain'd, as well as the approbation of the elders of their tribe, neither of which was ever deny'd, a day was fix'd for the publick solemnization of their nuptials, at which their whole tribe were always present. The ceremony of their marriage was, as well as I can remember, in the following manner.

IN the morning, after the first prayers were over, the bridegroom, attended by all the young men of the tribe, with musical instruments, and the'r heads crown'd with chaplets of flowers, came to the bower or lodging of the virgin who was that day to be marry'd; and after he had sung and danc'd for a little while, came forth, attended with all the young virgins and girls above twelve years of age, adorn'd likewise with chaplets of flowers; from whence hung down, both before and behind, ropes, as it were, of flowers and odoriferous herbs. The bridegroom receiv'd her with great expressions of joy, and having kiss'd her lips and her eyes, march'd on with her towards the publick hall of the tribe; he follow'd by
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the young men, and she by the virgins and girls. The publick hall is a sort of an amphitheatre, above an hundred yards over; round which was planted, instead of walls, lofty and beautiful trees, whose branches spreading far, and joyning artificially in their growth, compos'd a very agreeable canopy of green, intermingled with beautiful flowers of an admirable scent; and which sufficiently shaded, tho' not cover'd, the whole space of the amphitheatre or circle; the middle of which was open to the air all round: Close to the bodies of the trees there were three ranges of seats made of banks cover'd with herbs and flowers; which, like camomile, was the better for being sit on. On these seats set all the marry'd men and women, and the elders of the tribe; the chief of which set on seats exalted above the rest. The bride and bridegroom, with their trains, being enter'd, came up to the seat of the chief elders, where the parents, of both sides, stood ready to receive them. The bridegroom made a speech, and the whole company joyn'd in prayers to heaven for a blessing on the new marry'd pair, then the nuptial song began, in which every one bore a part; during the solemnity the father and mother, of each side, deliver'd to the chief elder the hands of their son and daughter, which he joyn'd together; after which the bride and bridegroom embrac'd one another, and after some kisses separated again, and began to dance, sometimes by them-

selves, and sometimes in company, with all the rest of both their trains: When they had sung and danc'd for some time, they all went to their repast in a long room, arch'd over entirely with the branches of the trees on each side, so artfully interwoven, that the cieling seem'd perfectly solid; but they went not to dinner before they had all joyn'd in the noon-tide prayer, and which was never omitted upon any account whatsoever. After dinner the young ones went again to dancing, and the old ones to talking on what they thought fit: These revels continu'd till evening prayer, after which the bridegroom led his bride, attended as before, to the bower of bliss, I mean to that arbour where they were to consummate and rest the whole night. The boys and girls, in the mean while, had strew'd the way, from the publick hall to this bower; and on each side, as they pass'd, stood the old women strewing on their heads odoriferous flowers: When they were enter'd, the whole company dispers'd, every one to his own home. This is the ceremony of their marriage, but what that of their funerals was I cannot tell, having not seen one during the three years time of my abode among them.

I could not observe that they made any difference of days, or distinguish'd *Sunday* from the rest; but upon our mentioning that we set apart one day in seven, as a day peculiar for

for the service of God, which we therefore call the Lord's-day, they cry'd out, in a sort of a wonder, Why is not every day the day of the Lord, and dedicated to his service either in prayer, or such duties and exercises as he has ordain'd? But when we said we did it in commemoration of God's resting from his labour, after he had in six days created the heavens and the earth, and all things in them; they stopp'd their ears, and cry'd out, Blasphemy; esteeming it so, in calling whatever God did, labour; and expressing it in such a manner, as if tir'd with his foregoing work he wanted rest, like man, to refresh himself. We were at last admitted to their conversation after dinner, and there, to the whole company, gave an account of the customs, laws, manners and vices of our part of the world; particularly of our wars, and the many thousands slain in battle, with the vast devastations and desolation which the ambition of princes brought upon their people, all which seem'd to strike them with the utmost horror: However, this was the occasion that we were sent from tribe to tribe round the whole island, and oblig'd to each tribe in several particular and general assemblies to rehearse the same account, and always met with the same horror and detestation in every one of our audiences. This progress of ours took up the rest of the time that we staid among them; but before we were permitted to go away, there was a general assembly of

of the elders of all the tribes, at which were present likewise many of the younger sort; the place in which this assembly was held was about the middle of the Island, where, in a spacious plain, there arose a magnificent building, if I may call that a building whose walls were all vegetables, for they were compos'd of several lofty trees set at convenient distances, the spaces between each being fill'd up with smaller plants, which being interwoven, each within the other, seem'd a sort of a green wall which did not rise up to the roof, but left several openings like windows to let in both the air and the light; the roof being form'd out of the branches of the tall trees seem'd supported by them as by so many pillars; the roof of this was much the same with that I describ'd; and here likewise was such another amphitheatre, tho' much larger, and capable of holding a far greater number of people. In the midst of this there grew another lofty tree, whose branches spread far and wide, and help'd to compleat the canopy that kept off the sun and weather from incommoding the assembly. Beneath this middle tree, there was a bank all rais'd up behind it to such an eminence that it overlook'd the audience, and from it were made such speeches as were address'd to the whole company; and here it was that we were to have our audience of leave, as I may call it; and where my good friend the Priest had like to have spoil'd all by an untimely

timely zeal for propagating the Gospel among them; for being mounted upon this eminence, after he had given thanks for the human treatment we had met with among them, he went on; and first prais'd their happiness in their knowledge of the true God, as well as in the place of their abode, and the strength and fineness of their reasoning; but, said he, there is still one thing wanting to render your felicity compleat; that is, to hinder its expiring with your life, for I do assure you, there are much greater blessings in the eternal kingdom of God, which can only be obtain'd by the means of Jesus Christ. In return therefore of all our obligations, and in obedience to the dictates of my conscience, I shall offer you another religion, which is yet in some measure built on that which you already profess. Here the audience would not let him proceed any farther, and one of the eldest of the company spoke thus to him. Stranger, let not thy ignorance of what we believe, put thee upon a fruitless trouble to waste our time in hearing what can never have any agreeable effect among us; therefore before you proceed, hear an account of our religion, and then if you can offer any thing better you shall have leave to speak. Upon this we were ordered to descend and stand among the audience; and a young virgin of about fifteen, was commanded to mount the eminence in our room, and thence to give an account of their religion. They did this for two ends; first, to shew how well their young ones

ones were instructed; and next by way of contempt, by putting so young a creature to open the argument against us. When she was got up, bowing her self, and putting one knee to the ground, she implor'd heaven to enable her to speak in such a manner as was agreeable to the importance of what she had to utter. *O Affa*, (which by interpretation signifies Thou Being without a name) 'tis thou whom we adore, thou who hast produc'd, by thy infinite power and wisdom, all things that fill the universe; thou who art infinite and every where; thou who dost by thy providence sustain every thing that is, and which only and wholly subsists by and in thee; thou who hadst no beginning, but didst give beginning to every thing else, to thee are all our prayers and our praises due and daily paid, as our eternal benefactor and source; and to thee be praise for evermore.

THEN standing upright she thus proceeded. This great God has implanted in us certain laws, which are equally evident and beneficial, and of which reason is our teacher; a teacher who can never deceive us, since this great God has given us no other guide either to him or of our own actions. As reason leads us to the being of a God, so it tells us, that we have a perpetual dependence upon him, and receive perpetual favours from him in the life which we enjoy; and therefore, that our prayers and praises should be likewise perpetual, it farther tells us, that
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since this great Being has created human kind with a benificent intention, for eternal goodness could have no other; it follows, that we are oblig'd to do nothing that may injure that happiness which he design'd his creatures should enjoy; but the surest way of avoiding whatever may disturb our tranquillity, is to love one another; for whilst we love one another, we can never do any thing to hurt our selves; for hurt is the effect of hate, and not of love; our religion therefore is very short, and not burthen'd with many articles, since it only commands that we love and adore our eternal Benefactor, who is entirely and every way lovely and adorable; but as a testimony of this love and adoration, we ought publickly to pay to him our thanks and our praise, and for all those things which we daily receive from his bounty; and to give infallible proofs that this profession and publick worship has its foundation in our hearts, we must always, and in all things, act according to what love requires of us to one another, and this is the sum of our religion.

HAVING said this, she made another bow, and descended from the eminence; and then the priest was order'd to go up again, where he began to tell them the whole history of *Adam* and *Eve*, and the *Fall of Man*, which had corrupted the whole generation, and made all the progeny of *Adam* to be born in original

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ginal sin, which excluded them from that eternal happiness hereafter, for which their Maker had design'd them; and that therefore it was necessary that there should be a Redeemer to restore mankind to the grace and favour of God; but that could not be done by any one man, who was merely a man; therefore one person of the Godhead took upon him human nature, and was born of a virgin, did many miracles, and at last dy'd an infamous death, to make atonement to heaven for the sins of all mankind; who were by that means made capable of entering into heaven, whose gates he open'd; where rising again from the dead, he ascended into heaven; and therefore no one can follow him thither who are not let into this congregation by baptism, and acknowledge him, as well as the Holy Ghost, to make up one Godhead with the Father.

THE priest was proceeding to the worship of the virgin *Mary*, and the saints and angels; but his discourse had seem'd too shocking to the assembly to let them suffer him to go on any farther. One of the elders told him he should say no more, since their ears could not hear of the Deity's being divided into three; and that a man who he confess'd dy'd, was however the ever living God; so directing the priest to come down; he got up in his place, and turning himself all round to the people, cry'd out, O happy generation, who are separated

rated so far from these children of wrath, as to have no communication with them; they are rebels to reason, and God, and by that means are the most miserable of men; always subject to fears and mischiefs, created by their own folly; and for this reason were these two sons of wrath permitted to go round our country; that hearing their account of their own wretched state and condition, you might have the greater relish of that tranquillity and happiness which heaven has made our lot,

You have read, I doubt not, all of you, the accounts our histories give of these children of wrath, which we find now confirm'd by themselves; we may therefore bless that eternal power, who at once to secure the children of love from the infection and evil machinations of the children of wrath, sunk so many vast tracts of land to divide us from the rest of this wicked world, and separate us to felicity founded on innocence; ye sons of wrath, therefore with speed retire from among us, lest your longer stay should infect our blessed bowers.

WITH that we were conducted out of the assembly, and set directly towards the place where we enter'd this happy habitation; but the day was too far spent for us to go out that night, since we had five and twenty miles to walk from the assembly to their utmost

bounds; we were therefore conducted again to our first lodging, where we rested that night, having our usual guard about us, which we had not had ever since we left that place 'till we return'd thither again; we had however the conversation of two or three of our first guides and acquaintance, of whom I enquir'd what was meant by the distinction us'd by that elder who spoke last in the assembly of the children of wrath, and the children of love. We have, reply'd one of them, a history amongst us, that begins before the creation of the world, and reaches down to our separation from the rest of mankind; but though we do not build any faith upon this account, it is yet receiv'd with a great deal of veneration for its antiquity; it being written on the very first foundation of our nation. By this account the creation of the world is attributed not immediately to God, but to certain spirits made by God of wonderful power and wisdom, much beyond our comprehension; that every one of the stars, as well as the sun, were made by these immortal spirits; that the spirit who fram'd the earth, was belov'd by God above all the rest; and therefore when he had made the birds, and the beasts, and the reptiles, he animated them with life by fire given him from the spirit who had form'd and govern'd the sun; that when he had made man with wonderful œconomy in his body, he pray'd God to enliven it with a rational soul; in compliance with
which

which prayer, God infus'd reason into man, who by that reason was likened to its divine cause, and has this difference from its body, that it never dies, but is eternal; that is, endures for ever, since nothing that is the immediate work of God himself can ever perish: The body indeed dies, but that was only the work of the great and wonderful spirit before mention'd. This new made man having likewise a woman joyn'd unto him, begot their like; whose race for many years kept up to that purity and innocence in which they were first made, and which they preserved by keeping up to the directions of reason; but afterwards they began to neglect that duty, and follow the direction of their passions; which gaining head, soon depos'd reason, and with it lost all knowledge of God, and their own original. They left their delicious abode, being driven out indeed by angels, or some ministers of the great spirit who made them, and from that time call'd them the children of wrath, but yet his children; and those who remain'd innocent, who were in all but four, he call'd the children of love; and to keep them from being seduced by the children of wrath, he sunk all the ground about this place, or happy abode, and surrounded it with vast unpassable waters; here they encreas'd to the number which you now find. This history does describe the children of wrath much in the same manner as you have describ'd the people

people of your countries; which will add a great authority to this book, at least in that particular; but yet not enough to make us add any thing to our religion, either as to mingling some other worship with our adoration of the one God, or those maxims which direct our conduct to one another. And you may thank our principle, which forbids us the killing of any living creature, that you escap'd with your lives, for offering such absurd notions of three Gods; a man God, or one that dy'd as man. This, and much more, he urg'd against our religion, as propos'd by the priest. To put off the discourse, I ask'd what the meaning of that procession was, which I found they perform'd four times a year; the whole nation going round the mountains that encompass their whole country, singing hymns or songs of praise to God for some great deliverance: He told us that it was in commemoration of their being separated from the children of wrath, which they counted the greatest blessing that heaven had bestow'd upon them. The evening coming on they left us, and we retir'd to our bower to rest; the next morning, as soon as prayers were over, they came to us again, and led us up the hill to the place where we enter'd, and where we found our plank and rails still remaining; so parting with our children of love, we pass'd it, and came into our old territories, and by night got to
our

our habitation, in the manner which you have heard from my wife.

I shall only add concerning the people, that notwithstanding they were all naked, we never could observe the least look, word, gesture, or motion, which had any favour of immodesty; which, for all that I know, besides the temperance of the people, might proceed from their going naked; for that making all things familiar and constant to the eye, took away all curiosities, which our garments hiding, promote. When we told them that we wonder'd at least that they cover'd not those parts which we thought modesty requir'd they should; they seem'd to laugh at our folly, in thinking the parts of generation ought more to be cover'd than any other part of the body. In short, their life seem'd wholly celestial, being spent in the praise of God, and the love of one another. They had no trades among them, for every one made what instruments they wanted themselves; and the children of each family wove, as I may call it, those little dishes and plates or trenchers, in which they serv'd their fruit at meals; wove, I call it, because they were made of a sort of rushes, twisted so close together, that they would even hold a liquid, and of the same material; and the shells of certain nuts they form'd their drinking cups of: What and how they made their musical instruments, I do not know, tho' I have heard
a great

a great variety among them, for they were wonderful proficient in the art of musical numbers; they were all likewise poets, but their poetry consisted only of hymns and love songs.

BEING return'd home again to my wife, I was sorry to hear of the loss of the rest of our company, but glad to find her still alive. All that I had learn'd during my absence, which could be any way beneficial to her, was the cooking, as I may call it, of the several fruits which grew amongst us; particularly in making of oyl, or squeezing of it out of a fruit which we had before not minded, and which was of an excellent flavour and relish, and very much heighten'd several of our dishes. But no ships yet appear'd, and very little hopes we had that we should ever escape from that solitude to our more peopled world. The priest and I every day walk'd out some where or other, yet generally we went but a little way, because we would not leave my wife alone. One day taking a turn towards those mountains, or high rocks, which run cross the country, and separate us from the children of love, we chanc'd to see, at the foot of them, a certain reddish sand, which we fancy'd to be gold; and taking it up, persuaded our selves that it really was so, being wash'd down from those rocks by the great showers which had been all the day before; we took two or three handfuls, and carry'd with us to my wife; who persuaded

persuaded us to fetch all we could find of it, and fill those chests and trunks which were now empty'd of all our linen and cloaths, which by this time were pretty well consum'd, she said, since we had little else to do: And that since we might some time or other meet with a conveyance from that place, if we could in the mean time get any stock of this suppos'd gold, it might be of great use to us if it prov'd right, in our return to our own country. Accordingly we went and brought all we could find at the first place; but that was soon exhausted, there being no supply except after violent rains, which we suppos'd wash'd it down from the mountains; so we were careful to go always after the rains, not only where we found the first, but all along wherever we could come near them for the woods. We had now pretty well fill'd one of our boxes, when an accident happen'd that put an end to our raking together what we did not know would be of any real value; or if it was, it could be none to us while we remain'd where we were, and therefore not worth the running of any risque; for whilst we were one day gathering this glittering sand, we heard a most prodigious noise, and looking up we saw part of the mountain or rocks about half a mile from us tumbling down, and covering the country about it; we immediately, being sufficiently frighten'd, run full-speed to our own habitation, where only we

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thought

thought our selves safe, being above three miles from the mountains.

NOTHING else happen'd that is worth relating; during our stay in this place, which was above two years longer. At last taking our walk to the sea side, we thought we saw a ship, and found before it was dark that it was really so, and that she was making what sail she could towards our island: We went home with this good news to comfort my wife, who had been extremely uneasy at our stay so many hours more than we us'd to do. The next morning we all walk'd again to the sea side, and found the ship just entering our port or road; and that which was a greater satisfaction to us, we perceiv'd that she carry'd *French* colours. The shore was very *broad*, so that the ship came very near land, and at last laid her side close to the shore; and seeing us they hail'd us, and made several signs; as if they thought we were natives of the place, and understood not their tongue; but the priest ran nearer to them, and call'd to them in *French*, telling them they might safely come ashore; which was very agreeable news to them, since they had above eighteen of their men very sick, whom they brought all on shore, in order to the recovery of their health: The ship likewise was pretty much shatter'd in a storm, which had driven them into those parts. Now
my

my store of wine, which had continu'd by us some years, was of considerable use; for giving the sick seamen some of it in small quantities, and mingled with water, it contributed very much to their recovery. The ship's name was the *Barfleur*, and the captain of her was a gentleman of *Bretagne*; to whom we gave an account of all our adventures, and who, with some of his crew, persuaded the priest and me to be their guide to the place where we had made our former entry into the territories of the children of love; he resolving, if he could, not only to see the place, but to take some of the inhabitants, and carry them into *France*; but when we came there we found not only our plank gone, but the breach or gap, from ten foot, as we left it, widen'd to above three-score yards, and not much less in the depth; which, whether it was done by accident, or by the natives, to prevent any more visits from the children of wrath, as they call'd us, I know not. We staid in those parts two or three days, in hopes, at least, of hearing some of that heavenly musick, of which both the priest and I had told them, but to no purpose; so that returning back to the ship, the captain made all the haste he could in refitting her, and refreshing her with fresh water, of which they had been in great need. And the men being now all recover'd, and our baggage carry'd on board, and the wine that yet remain'd drawn off into *bottles*, of which the *captain* had a pretty good stock,

stock, tho' all empty'd in his voyage; putting likewise on board plenty of the most lasting fruit of the island, we all enter'd the *Barfleur*, and put out to sea.

I need not give you any relation of the several storms we met with, or the other common accidents which happen to sea-faring people; I shall only observe, that after many months voyage, as we came almost to the chops of the channel, we met with a *Dutch* man-of-war, who attempted to take us; but being a ship of pretty good force, and maintaining her self with a great deal of bravery, bringing the *Dutchman's* main-mast by the board, we sheer'd off, being too weak in guns and men to pretend to take her: We made all possible sail, and soon got out of danger, and reach'd the first port we could in *France*, which was *Bayonne*; having lost a dozen men in the fight, among which was the captain, as well as many wounded, in the number was my self, for there I lost my right hand; and the ship being very much batter'd, the priest, my wife, and my self, were very glad that we were once more got on shore in *Europe*, protesting we would never again seek our fortunes by sea; and I believe my wife, though she has a great mind to see her native country, *England*, will never do it, because we must pass some part of the sea to arrive there.

WE

WE staid at *Bayonne* till my arm was quite cur'd, by the surgeon of the ship; and here we made tryal of our gold dust, and found in the experiment, that there was indeed a great deal of that valuable metal amongst it, to our great satisfaction; for it not only supported us while we staid there, but enabled us to get to *Paris*; where being furnish'd with better tools to separate the ore from the dross, we found that we had of pure gold to the value of more than two thousand *Louis d'Ors*; which the priest propos'd to divide into three equal shares, of which he took one to himself, and gave us the other two; and with his share he purchas'd himself a good benefice about twenty miles from *Paris*. He still wears his beard, and eats no flesh nor fish, and is now alive, hale and jolly, coming once a year to *Paris*, where I am sure of his company; and who, when he comes, will confirm the truth of all I have told you. As for my wife and I, we try'd many ways, and spent a great deal of our money to little purpose, till I set up a Tavern at the other end of this city; but my wife knowing that the *English* very much frequented this part of the town, chose this house we now live in; and where we hope, by your means, that she may frequently converse with her own countrymen.

HERE

HERE my landlord made an end, with abundance of protestations of the truth of all he had told me; being ready, if I desir'd it, to confirm it with his solemn oath before a magistrate. The priest arriv'd here a few days after, and confirm'd every part of this account, from the time of their being taken by the *pirates*, to their coming away in the *Barfleur*, proffering to give me an attestation of the whole in writing under his own hand; or, if I requir'd it, his oath: Which tho' I then refus'd, with abundance of thanks for his civility, I will yet procure it, if you request it, of him, for he is still in this city. I shall only add, that I am,

Your most sincere friend and servant,

AMBROSE EVANS.



THE



THE
ADVENTURES
OF
Alexander Vendchurch,

AND OF HIS
Ship's Crew Rebelling against
him, and setting him on
shore in an Island in the
South-Sea, &c. 1719



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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THE
ADVENTURES
OF

Alexander Vendchurch,

And of his

*Ship's Crew Rebelling against him,
and setting him on shore in an
Island in the South-Sea, &c.*



WAS born in the city of *Edinburgh* in *Scotland*; my father was a substantial tradesman of that kingdom, with whom I liv'd 'till I was about twelve years of age; when being unable to bear the ill temper of my mother-in-law any longer, I run away from my father; and getting on board an *English vessel* that lay then in *Leith* road, I sail'd in her for *London*, and to discharge of my passage, I took upon me the
A office

office of a *cabin boy*; in which I pleas'd my master so well, that at my request he got me a place in the family of a considerable merchant; though it was only to run of errands, clean the *shoes*, and be an assistant to the cook-maid. I had in *Scotland* got a pretty good smattering in the *Latin* tongue, and writ a tolerable hand for my age; which, when my master was inform'd of, and finding me very tractable and good humour'd, he put me out to school to perfect my writing, and learn such accompts as might render me useful in his business; my diligence and application was so great, that I soon made a considerable progress in both; so that I was taken into the Compting-house to copy letters, and such other things as boys are generally employ'd in. My master had a daughter, who played upon the *lute*, and I having a mighty fancy always for *musick*, I ingratiated my self so far with her master as to give me now and then a lesson; in which I was such a proficient, that I believe he would have taken me on my young mistress's recommendation, for an apprentice; but I had other things in my head, which flatter'd me with greater prospects than that way of living; however, I improv'd my writing so well; whenever I had the least leisure from my master's business, that my young mistress having heard my performance, gave me a *lute*, and paid her master to instruct me in the notes, that I might not play all by rote, but be able to take off a tune
when

when I saw it before me; in two years time I play'd tolerably well, and by constant application, in two years more, was a perfect master: For I never lost any time, as lads of my age very often do; but when I had no business in the Compting-house, I was always thrumming on my *lute*. Having liv'd with this merchant about five years, or something more, he was sending a factor to *Cadiz*; who being willing to take me with him, I prevail'd with my master to let me go: Among others of my new master's acquaintance in *Cadiz*, there was a *Spanish* merchant, who was very intimate with him, to whom afterwards I ow'd a great deal of good fortune, though at last it had like to have prov'd my destruction.

I was always for improving my time, and therefore employ'd all the leisure I had in learning the *Spanish* tongue; in which I got such a mastery in a short time, that I could almost have pass'd for a native *Spaniard*. I would no more sing any *English* songs, or play any *English* tunes, but got all the *Spanish* musick and songs that I could procure; for which reason, when the merchant I just mention'd drank with my master, I was call'd to entertain him with a *Spanish* song on my *lute*; which pleas'd him so much, that when my *English* master was to return to *London*, he did all he could to detain me at *Cadiz*; proffering me such encouragement, that I thought fit to accept of

it: And being now come into a *Spanish* family, I soon grew a perfect *Spaniard*; and finding that my master lov'd to hear the *guittar*, I soon learn'd to play on it, though it is but a poor instrument in comparison of a *lute*; however my business was to please my master, which I did to such a degree, that he lov'd me extremely; nay, as much as if I had been his own son, but he was a batchelor, and a great marriage hater.

MY master having a very considerable fortune fallen to him at *Panama*, in the *West-Indies*; and thinking that he could the better secure it by going thither, he resolv'd upon that voyage with the next *Flota* that set out from *Cadiz*. The only difficulty that he had was, what to do about me; for to take me with him was dangerous, at least to me, none being permitted to go into those parts but native *Spaniards*; and yet he could not think of going without me. I told him that I was willing to run any hazard rather than stay behind him; that I was grown so much a *Spaniard* in every thing, that no body would take me to be of any other country, who did not know the contrary. This pleas'd my master wonderfully, and the better to disguise me, he made me take upon me his own name, which was *Gonzalvo de Toledo*; only instead of *Gonzalvo* he call'd me *Roderigo*, and made me pass for a near relation of his when we came to *Panama*.

Panama. All the difficulty that now remain'd, was how to get me on ship-board, since I was so well known in *Cadiz* to be a *Scotchman*; this likewise we got over, by pretending to part with me, and my seeming to set out for *Madrid* about a month before the departure of the *Flota*. My master *Gonzalvo* furnish'd me with money sufficient for this expedition, and gave letters of credit to some of his correspondents in *Sevill*, with whom I negotiated some affairs of my master's, and then went on board a vessel that went to joyn the *Flota*, which was sail'd a few hours before our ship arriv'd, and therefore we made all the speed we could after it, without staying at *Cadiz*, of which I was very glad: It was near two days before we came up with the *Flota*; when my master was over-joy'd to see me come on board the ship in which he was. There was nothing material happen'd during this voyage, but the whole *Flota* arriv'd very happily at the several ports to which they were bound, and we got safe to *Panama*, a very fine and populous city. *Gonzalvo* negotiated his affairs with great success, and in less than a year's time might have return'd again into *Spain* with all his effects; but being now very old, he had no mind to undergo such a voyage, merely to die in *Spain*: He therefore resolv'd to stay there during the rest of his life, and for my part, I esteem'd no country more than that where I was likely to be a gainer; and that was

was with my new uncle, as he call'd himself, who grew every day more fond of me.

OUR business not being very fatiguing, I had much time upon my hands, some of which I spent in making my addressees to the Ladies, but without any pain or disquiet to my self. I serenaded sometimes one, and sometimes another, with my *lute* or *guittar*, and such dismal ditties as that place afforded: But I was not long to enjoy this tranquillity, for being one day at church, I kneel'd next to a Lady whose shape and hand infinitely pleas'd me; I made my addressees to her with such success, that she took an opportunity to let me have a side view of her face; which was the most transportingly beautiful that ever I beheld in my life, and quite struck me to the heart; but my comfort was, that my person had not been wholly indifferent to her, and I prevail'd with her to let me know who she was, and where she liv'd; she inform'd me that her father's name was *Don Henriquez de Tortosa*, one of the most eminent citizens of *Panama*; in return I let her know mine, and my uncle's name; which, with some short protestations and vows of love on my side, concluded that conversation, the place admitting of no long conferences, tho' I went home extremely pleas'd with the success I had met with. When I began to reflect, I remember'd that *Don Henriquez de Tortosa* was the greatest enemy that my

my uncle had in that city, and that he was equally hated by him; this made me conclude that I must manage my amour with *Donna Elvira* with the utmost caution and secrecy, to keep it from the knowledge of both the old Gentlemen.

My uncle had before now talk'd with me about marriage, assuring me, that if I fix'd my affections on any woman, in order to make her my wife, he would take care to give success to my choice, by making such a settlement upon me as should be sufficient to answer her fortune; but I always told him I would imitate him, and continue a batchelor, at least as long as I should be happy during his life, and that I could not think of dividing that love which I bore him with any other; but as for those addresses I made, they were only amusements, mere effects of gallantry, without the least tincture of love. He gave me some prudent cautions for my conduct in those affairs, putting me in mind of the danger which those addresses very often brought upon us; I thank'd him for his care of me, and assur'd him that I would not carry matters so imprudently as to run any risque in the pursuit of my gallantries, which were too general to draw any particular jealousy upon me; but I never durst tell him, as long as he liv'd, one word about my passion for *Elvira*, being afraid of offending him; for a *Spaniard's* hatred is never to be

be pleas'd, and therefore I very well knew that on her father's account he would never indulge, or even pardon my inclinations for the daughter: However, I took care to find means of conveying a letter to her, by bribing, with the help of a friend, the *Duenna*, or governess, who had the immediate guardianship of *Elvira*; she being the only daughter of *Don Henriquez*, and very much belov'd by him, was permitted more liberties than the young *Spanish* ladies are generally allow'd.

I shall not here pretend to give you copies of the several letters which I sent her, or of her answers, they being all lost at the same time that my wealth was ravish'd from me; it must suffice that they were really passionate on both sides, and the effect of a true and violent passion. By the help of the *Duenna* I had several interviews with my mistress, in which we both deplor'd our mutual misfortunes, in the hatred that was fix'd betwixt her father and my uncle; but yet we sometimes comforted our selves, that they were both very old, and very infirm, so that if either dropt, we imagin'd that the other might easily be brought to give his consent; but we were out in this, for want of considering, that when a *Spaniard* hates One of a family he hates them All.

Mr

My uncle, who had never well recover'd his voyage from *Spain*, was now taken ill of his last sickness, and took care to leave me so plentiful a fortune, that if I had been really his nephew, I could not have desir'd more. He bequeath'd a considerable legacy to one of his near relations in *Spain*, and left me a particular charge to remit it to him; which afterwards prov'd a great damage to me in the possession of that fortune which *Gonzalvo* had left me, and which, after all legacies and funeral charges were paid, amounted to upwards of one hundred thousand pieces of eight, a very handsome stock for a young merchant to begin the world with.

SOME time after my uncle's death, my desire was too eager to have *Elvira* to my wife, to suffer me to consider things calmly; I therefore, by a common friend, made motions to *Don Henriquez*, of an accommodation; and to cement our new friendship, made him propose me as a husband for his daughter. On this motion *Don Henriquez* flew out into the most extravagant passion in the world, uttering the vilest abuses, both against me and my uncle, that an inveterate malice could prompt, and swore bitterly that he would sooner give his daughter to an *Alguazil* (a hangman) than to me; telling him, that if I ever made any addresses to her, or came near his house with that design,

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he would take care that I should be treated like an invader of the honour of his family; but having no notion of that affair which I had so long had with his daughter, he did not abridge her of those little liberties which he before allow'd her; he thought it sufficient only to tell her of the proposal that had been made, with his own answer; adding, that he hop'd he had no occasion to threaten her with his curse, if she ever listen'd to any solicitations from him; which indeed he did not expect, supposing that this proposal was only an effect of the care of my own interest; and not of love.

THIS discourse, though it struck *Elvira* to the heart, yet she knew her father too well to suffer either her looks or words to give him the least suspicion of the truth. We both long'd to see one another, but how to accomplish it was a difficulty which neither of us could presently think of surmounting.

THERE was in *Panama* an old Gentlewoman named *Donna Bianca*, who was a widow, and a very near relation of *Don Henriquez*; and on that account, as well as for the love she express'd for his daughter, was always well receiv'd at his house, and *Elvira* was allow'd by him to make frequent visits to her at her house. The engaging this widow entirely in our cause, appear'd the only means of an interview between us. *Bianca* was not only

only covetous by nature, but render'd more so by age, which open'd a way for me to make her my own; but even that was not to be done without some caution and address; I therefore made use of an acquaintance of hers, who had some dependance upon me, and soon brought matters to bear, for by promising large rewards, she allow'd her house to be the place of our rendezvous: Accordingly at last we met there, to the infinite satisfaction of us both. It would be endless and superfluous to give an account of the joys and transports of our meeting, it is enough for any one to consider what might pass between two young people, equally possess'd with a violent passion: We met often, and every time produc'd new warmth, and new desires, which neither party had power to check, or any thoughts of doing so; on the contrary, every meeting seem'd to encrease our love, and those familiarities which hearts perfectly united make little scruple of; but whatever they were, they were not sufficient to satisfy our desires; we therefore consulted how to bring matters to such a conclusion as might make us both happy in one another, which nothing could do but marriage; but that we knew was not to be accomplish'd in a publick manner, and by her father's consent, who was my irreconcilable enemy; nor was it to be done privately, because after the consummation, and her settling with me, it must be known, and by con-

sequence draw upon us both such a revenge, as would not end without something very fatal and dreadful; the only means that we could find out, was, that I should call in all my effects in those parts, and return to *Spain*, taking her with me. This therefore was resolv'd upon, and I immediately began to set in earnest about it. If we had kept this resolution to our selves, I believe it had met with success; but taking *Bianca* into our council, being, as we thought, necessary to our accomplishing it, she privately betray'd us; for considering that by our departure, there would not only be an end of her profit, which was what made her our friend, but that she should be left alone to stand the fury of *Don Henriquez's* resentment, she resolv'd to play another part, secretly to reveal so much of our affair as might disappoint our designs, and render what she did acceptable to *Elvira's* father; telling him, that he had best have a watchful eye over his daughter, since she had certain information, that she not only met me under pretence of coming to visit her, but that matters were brought to such a head, that our marriage was suddenly design'd. The old Gentleman was in a prodigious fury at what he heard, till *Bianca* advis'd him not to depend entirely upon her information, but to have her watch'd whenever she went out: *Don Henriquez* took her advice, and accordingly provided not only spies to watch her, but *Bravo's*
to

to put an end to his fears by my death. The next time of our appointed meeting I happen'd to come first, and was extremely surpriz'd to find *Bianca's* doors fast, and that they would not be open'd by my knocking, or any noise I could make: I began to suspect that we were betray'd, and therefore taking the two men I always had with me, for fear of accidents, I went a little forwards in the way that I knew *Elvira* must come; and accordingly met her not many paces from *Bianca's* house. I told her what had happen'd, and the cause I had to fear that our secret love was made known to her father; she was struck with an inexpressible grief and concern at this unhappy event; but while we were consulting how to manage our affairs for the future, there came up half a dozen men, two of them seiz'd upon her and her *Duenna*, and hurry'd them away, the other four at the same time made at me; but retiring a little way, I drew out my pocket pistol and shot among them, which forc'd them a little to retire; but finding they were none of them hurt, they came on again with greater violence; in which interval I retreated back to my two men; we all drew our swords, and behav'd our selves so well, that we made them leave the place, and so got home; but in the scuffle I receiv'd two wounds, which for some time were thought to be very dangerous, and so bad that it was given out

out I should die of them; and indeed it was some time before I perfectly recover'd.

You may be sure that I made it my endeavours to enquire after the fate of my mistress, and of what treatment she had met with upon this discovery; all that I could hear was, that her father had sent her away from *Panama*; some said to *Portobello*, and some to *Spain*, but most were of this latter opinion; but for fear of a mistake I dispatch'd a friend in whom I could confide, to *Portobello*, to make a strict enquiry whether she was there or not, but could not hear the least news of her; so that I resolv'd to hasten the calling in of my effects, in order to go into *Spain* after her: But this was not to be done with any manner of convenience, without taking up a considerable time. However, having at last settled my affairs, I freighted a ship with all my own cargo; designing very suddenly to set out from *Panama*, which I was the more expeditious to accomplish, because I had not only been frequently attack'd by the partisans of *Don Henriquez*, but was more terrify'd by the arrival of *Lorenzo de Toledo*, a near relation of my suppos'd uncle; to whom he had left the handsome legacy I before mention'd: But he, not satisfy'd with that, was come to *Panama*, to examine who it was that had depriv'd him of the possession of the whole; for *Roderigo de Toledo*
was

was a person of whom he had not the least knowledge. When he arriv'd, I was almost ready to go on board, but his coming put a little stop to it; for when he saw me, he remember'd that I was *Alexander*, his relation's servant, and not *Roderigo* his nephew; and therefore made his complaints, that either I had forg'd the will, or that it was invalid, since I was mention'd there in a wrong name, and not being a native *Spaniard*, but an *Englishman* (for they make no distinction between *Scotch* and *English*) and, as he suppos'd, an heretick, I could be neither heir nor executor, in prejudice to a native *Spaniard*, and a true Catholick. You may be sure I deny'd the whole charge, since not only my fortune, but my life, might in some measure depend upon it. *Don Henriquez*, tho' he hated all my uncle's family, yet having a greater aversion to me, and in hopes to embroil our affairs, he plainly espous'd the cause of *Lorenzo*, and I had secret information that they were endeavouring to get an order to seize both me and my ship; I was therefore advis'd to put in my appeal to the Courts of *Spain*, and immediately to get on board, and put off to sea; which accordingly I did, but not so soon but that *Lorenzo* had found means to get a creature of his on board my ship, as a common sailor, who should accomplish my destruction, which he brought about in the following manner: This creature of his was a cunning fellow, and had

had soon insinuated himself into the good graces of the rest of the sailors, assuring them that they would not only do God good service, in destroying an heretick, but secure to themselves most of the ship's cargo by throwing me over-board; which had certainly been done, had not a small storm, for a while, deferr'd the mischief they intended me. This storm had driven us very near an island in the *South-Sea*; which, tho' once inhabited, they knew was now quite depopulated; which however mov'd the master, who ow'd his employment to me, to move them rather to set me on shore upon this desert island, than to throw me into the sea. Accordingly the mutiny being now ripe, they told me that as I was a heretick, they could not hope to prosper in their voyage whilst I remain'd in the ship; and though they intended to cast me over-board, yet by the master's mediation, and the appearance of that island, they chang'd their resolution, and were determin'd to set me on shore with such provisions and necessaries as they could spare. I did all I could to pacify them, and recover them to their duty, but to no purpose; I might as well have talk'd to the sea or the winds, for bigotry and desire of gain had made them entirely deaf to all I said; I therefore submitted to a fate I could not prevent, and was set on shore with such provisions and utensils as they were pleas'd to allow me, and which they would not so much as
 carry

carry up into the island for me, but just set them on shore a little above the high water mark, and so went off. I stood with melancholy eyes to see them sail away with all my fortune, and all my hopes, leaving me on a desolate island, with no more provisions than would, well manag'd, serve me about two months. They left me indeed a gun, some shot, and some powder, a little kettle, and some few tools, which might be necessary for building me a little hut, for my residence and protection against the injuries of the weather; so that if the island it self should afford me no assistance, my life could not be of a very long date: But I found it was in vain to grieve and repine at what I had lost, or the condition in which I was. And so when I had look'd at the ship 'till she was got clear out of sight, I went a little farther up into the island to search for a convenient place, whither I might transport, by degrees, that little stock of necessaries which the villains had left me, of which I valu'd nothing more than a poor hammock, which, with much intreaty, I had obtain'd of them; for being always us'd to lie well, I was very apprehensive of having so hard a lodging as the cold ground. I had not gone many paces before I discover'd a little sort of a hut, tho' almost dropping down, for want of care to repair it; however, such as it was, I was resolv'd to enter into it, and see what convenience it afforded for my self, and what

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I had to place in it; I was likewise willing to shelter my self against the violent heat of the sun, for it was then but just turn'd of noon; and there I resolv'd to remain 'till the cool of the evening should enable me to fetch my things thither. With these thoughts I enter'd the hut, and making to the most shady part of it, which was likewise the darkest, I threw my self down on the floor, in order, if I could, to take a little nap; but was very much surpriz'd when I heard a human voice, tho' in imperfect sounds, as from a person asleep, crying out in these words, *Oh! Roderigo*, several times repeated, and attended with many sighs. I could not immediately tell what to do, but to satisfy my self drew nearer to the sound, and found that there was some body asleep there, but who or what I could by no means so much as guess; my motion and feeling about, at last, awak'd the sleeper; who affrighted to find some body near her (for it was a woman) started up, and was running away; but I soon stopp'd her, and taking her by the hand gently, enquir'd, Who she was? Whence she came? And what brought her thither? But what amazement were we both struck with when I saw that it was *Elvira*, and she beheld in me her unfortunate *Roderigo*! We both a while stood gazing at each other, when all I could utter was, Sure it is impossible that this should be my *Elvira*! And all she could say was, Oh! heaven, is it possible! Can it be!

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Is this my *Roderigo* ! We both at once cry'd, Yes, yes, and flew into each other's arms ; nor could our embraces and kisses soon find a cessation, but our first extacy being over, we began to ask and enquire of each other, how we came thither ? I gave her a full account of all that had pass'd since the time of our separation to that day : But, concluded I, I will no longer complain of fortune, since if she had not frown'd in this manner upon me, I had not now had the blessing of clasping my dear *Elvira* in my arms ; nor will I, said she, complain of mine, since it has brought my beloved *Roderigo* to mine ; so after an interval of repeated embraces, she gave me the following account of her adventures.

WHEN I was forc'd away from you, said she, near *Bianca's* house, I was hurry'd back by the Ruffians who seiz'd me (one of whom was my brother) to my father's house, but was not admitted into his presence ; for my brother told me that his indignation was so great, that he had sworn never to see me more, lest his rage should transport him to use me with such severity, as he might afterwards repent. He let me know that *Bianca* had betray'd me, in revenge of which I told him that she had been my confidant in the whole affair ; and for the sake of money had given us the use of her house, with all imaginable freedom ; which my brother said he would take care to let my father know

as soon as his passion was a little more abated; in the mean time he advis'd me to write a submissive letter, which perhaps might make way for a reconciliation, tho' he fear'd not. I writ not only one, but several letters to my father, in hopes to revive his former tenderness to me, that I might by that means gain a little more liberty, in order to find out some way of letting you know the posture of my present affairs; but my *Duenna* being turn'd out of doors, and I put under the severest confinement, could not possibly accomplish it. My brother at last brought me word, that I must immediately prepare for a voyage to *Spain*: This news struck me to the heart, especially since I had no means of letting you know it; but it was in vain to struggle, my father was inexorable, nor would he so much as admit me into his presence, even so much as to take my leave of him; but sent me on board so guarded, that it was impossible for me to give you the least notice of my condition. In short, we set sail in an evil hour; for we had not been out many days before we were attack'd by a *French privateer*, and were taken by her: But not much caring for the ship, they were contented with its plunder, scarce leaving us the cloaths we had on our backs. This misfortune was soon after attended with another; for when, upon a consultation, it was resolv'd to turn back again to *Panama*, as having neither provision nor cargo left to proceed on our intended

ded voyage, they thought it the best course they could take; but, as I was saying, a storm just then arose, which prov'd so violent, that it drove us farther from the coast for several days together, insomuch that our lives were in danger; because the ship, by the fight she had sustain'd with the *French*, was very much shatter'd, and grown so leaky, that they almost despair'd of keeping her above water. The only comfort we had in all this distress was, that we had discover'd land, being the island where you now find me; but that which lessen'd this satisfaction was, for fear that the storm which yet continu'd, should dash us to pieces on some rocks, which they either knew, or concluded to be about this coast: However, being now within a league of the shore, they were in hopes that they might reach it in their boat if the ship founde'r'd, as they expected every minute it would, and which soon after it did. They had but just time to get me, three other passengers, and themselves into the boat, but the ship sunk.

THE number of us in the boat was about two and twenty persons, that is, the master, my self, three other passengers, one of which was my maid, and, as near as I can remember, sixteen or seventeen seamen, of whom many were very much wounded in the fight. Thus with a great deal of difficulty, and every moment expecting to be sunk by the waves which perpetually

tually broke in upon us, we got within a quarter of a mile of the shore, when the boat was dash'd to pieces against a rock, and we all set on float in the water, so that every one took care of themselves; and I must certainly have perish'd had not one *Diego*, an old servant of my father's, and who was an excellent swimmer, caught hold of me, and bidding me hold my breath as much as I could, bore me so near the land that he could wade but up to the middle in water; where finding me quite spent, he carried me on shore in his arms; and then making me cast up all the water I had swallow'd, he in a little time brought me to my self. Another did the same by my maid, but I know not how it was, when she was brought on shore, either by the fright she was in, or by the great quantity of salt water she had swallow'd, she was so far suffocated that she never came to her self. There were about half a dozen more of the seamen that got to land, the rest who were so much wounded as I have said, were render'd incapable, as we suppose, of struggling with the waves; for they and the two Gentlemen passengers were all drown'd; and indeed our condition was very little better, for being cast upon an island where we expected no subsistence, and were entirely destitute of all support, we could not expect to live many days. The men having first stripp'd my maid, threw her into the sea; they had no instruments to dig a grave for her

her on the shore ; they after, hung her cloaths a drying, and her linen prov'd very useful to me afterwards.

WE all soon remov'd farther up into the island, and the men went out to see what provisions they could get for our relief, leaving with me *Diego*, that I might not be wholly alone. They found at last a small cottage, though very ruinous, in which there were two rooms pretty entire; and searching on, they found two or three acres of ground, some planted with turnips, and others with potatoes, and they all having knives in their pockets, made use of them to dig up these Roots; which they plac'd in the cottage, and came to fetch *Diego* and me to their new habitation. But how to prepare this food for our eating, still remain'd a difficulty with us, since we had no convenience of dressing them, though there was a chimney in this cottage; but then we had neither firing, nor a pot to boil them in; but searching about the house they found three or four pieces of flint, wherewith they did not doubt but with the help of their knives they might be able to strike fire: Yet there was still wanting some very combustible matter to receive those sparks of fire which they should strike from their flints, so they went out to see if the place afforded any thing which would supply that defect. They found at last
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a dry rotten tree, some parts of which receiv'd the fire they struck as well as any tinder; they then gather'd together all the fuel they could find, consisting of part of this rotten tree, and other things of the like nature, with which they made a good fire, and try'd to roast, since they could not boil their roots; which, considering our present circumstance, we all being pretty hungry, prov'd tolerable food. The next care they had, was how to provide a lodging for me, but they could find no other way than cleaning the floor as well as they could, and laying my maid's cloaths under me, with a small log of wood for my pillow; which, after my fatigue, prov'd so good a bed, that I slept very soundly all the night. I forgot to tell you that just without the cottage there was a fine spring of water, which serv'd us for drink; tho' our hands were all the cups we had; 'till we had found a sort of fruit very like a lemon, but its juice was so sour, that we could make very little use of it, but scooping them clean, they made us tolerable drinking cups.

THIS island is about seven leagues long, and three broad, and abounds with several inoffensive animals, left there by the inhabitants, who had lately quitted it, particularly goats; which we were at present but very little the better for, and in no way of taking or killing them. There were likewise some hogs, but all

all these were at the farther part of the island, and out of our power to make food of: However, one day three of our men brought in a couple of young kids, one of them they made a kind of pen for, out of the old pieces of boards they found about the place, and the other they kill'd, flead and dress'd, by broiling on the coals: And this was noble food, considering how we had liv'd for some days. We had no napkins or plates, but a piece of board very well scrap'd and wash'd, which serv'd us both for table and trenchers. We had no bread to our dinners, but that was tolerably supply'd by our roasted *potatoes*; of the kid's skin, when it was dry'd in the sun, they made me a bolster, something softer than what I had, and with other skins, prepar'd in the same manner, they improv'd my bed; for they all took care to make my misfortune as easy to me as they could. They one day happen'd to find a sow with a litter of young pigs, of which they brought away two, with a great deal of joy, and dress'd them as well as they could.

AND indeed as long as I had my companions I bore up as well as cou'd be expected, and in three months time had us'd my self to the hardships of my fortune so well, that I was grown a perfect campaigner. We had our scouts out every day, to see if we could discover any ships, but to no purpose; for to this minute I never heard of any 'till, your presence

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inform'd me that there has been one upon this coast.

OUR men willing to gratify me with some variety of food, went frequently upon the strand, in hopes to find some shell-fish, and at last they brought home half a dozen oysters; which I eat with so much satisfaction, that they ventur'd to get to a rock, when the tide was out, on which they imagin'd they saw a pretty great store of them; but this was a fatal expedition, there coming out of the sea half a dozen sea lions, as *Diego* call'd them; creatures of a vast bigness, and terrible to behold, at least they seem'd so to *Diego* in his fright; who being nearest the shore, fled away with the loss of a piece of the sleeve of his wastecoa't, and two great scratches in his arm made by the paw of the lion, whilst all the others were devour'd by them. *Diego* came to me in a very great fright, and his arm all running with blood: I took him to the spring and wash'd his wounds, binding them up as well as I could, with the only handkerchief I had left. I was extremely concern'd for the loss of his companions, and the more, because it was partly upon my account that they run into this danger. *Diego* and I did as well as we could, I being oblig'd both to strike fire, and cook my victuals; that is, roast my potatoes and turnips, which was all the food we had left, keeping no flesh by us, because of the heat

heat of the season ; but for potatoes and turnips they had brought a pretty large stock into the house.

I wash'd and dress'd poor *Diego's* wound every day, but whether there was any venom in the creature that gave the wound, or that the renting of the flesh caus'd it, I know not, yet a great inflammation ensu'd, and after it a mortification ; which soon carry'd off poor *Diego*, and left me all alone, with a dead body, which I had no capacity of burying. What to do I could not tell, since to stay in the house with him was impossible, the stench that would arise from his corrupting body being too great to be borne ; I therefore immediately resolv'd to remove to this little hut where you now find me. Accordingly I first carry'd all my bedding, and then as many of my turnips and potatoes as I could, in four or five journies ; which I continu'd for a day or two, 'till the stench of *Diego's* body deterr'd me from going any more to the cottage, which is something more than half a mile from hence. I brought away with me likewise two of the seamen's knives, the flints, and what touch-wood we had by us, with two or three of the cups that we had made of the rhine of the lemon.

My state was now indeed very deplorable, being in an island all alone, a poor helpless

woman, who could not expect to support herself long with that small quantity of provisions which my old companions had left me, not knowing how to come at more when they were spent, without the utmost difficulty. Thus I have liv'd upwards of a week, but now heaven has sent you to my relief, which may yet a while delay my fate, tho' I am not at all solicitous to put off that death which in a little time seems to me inevitable: However, I shall die with pleasure, since it is given me to expire in the arms of my *Roderigo*.

HERE she made an end, and after a thousand tender embraces, I bid her be comforted, and cherish better hopes, since I was now with her to take care of her, and provide such necessaries as the island afforded. The evening growing cool, I went to the shore where I was landed, and by degrees brought all my provisions and stores to the little hut; where having first refresh'd *Elvira* with what I had to eat, and a little wine, for the rogues had been so bountiful as to give me a gallon and no more, having finish'd our repast, with much ado I fix'd up my hammock, in order to mend the lodging of *Elvira*. She made some scruples at first of permitting me to lie in the same place with her; but having convinc'd her that we were really man and wife before heaven, having pronounc'd all the obligatory ties of matrimony, which were the only essentials of
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it, she seem'd less averse. I told her that as for the priest, and the other formalities of the church, they were mere ceremonies, and wholly political; that the children of *Adam* were really marry'd, tho' they had no priest to join them, for there was no priest then in the world; that ours was the same case, being in an island where there was no body but our selves. It growing now dusky, we both went into the hammock, and slept very heartily; the next morning we got up, and having taken our breakfast, I resolv'd to go and bury the dead body, that we might remove to more convenient quarters. There grew by the hut some fine scented herbs, and taking such tools as I thought might do the office of a spade, I went and dug a hole large enough for the body; and with a great deal of trouble, in the midst of a horrid stench, I got the corpse into the hole; I soon cover'd it up, and went to the spring, wash'd my hands and face, mouth and nostrils, to get away all the relicks of the stench, and then I drank a little of the water, and return'd again to *Elvira*; though before I came back to her I rubb'd my self all over with the sweet scented herbs I mention'd before, that I might carry her no disagreeable smell. She receiv'd me with joy and open arms, and told me how troubled she was at the nauseous office I had perform'd. I reply'd, that the burying of the dead was a christian duty, and here being no body to do this but my self, I thought I was oblig'd

oblig'd not to neglect it; that besides the discharge of that duty, I had provided her a more convenient habitation. The day growing hot, we retir'd again to our hammock, where we repos'd till two or three a clock, when we got up and went to dinner, and in the evening took a walk out into the country. We let it be three or four days, nay, if I mistake not, a week, before we remov'd our quarters; and I had made fires and purify'd the house, and strew'd it with sweet herbs and flowers, and fitted up the coolest part for my hammock, which I brought with me. When I led my love to her new dwelling, that being fix'd, I began to remove my effects, which took me up above two days, working only early in the morning, and in the cool of the evening.

WHEN all was remov'd, and we entirely settled, I began to think that I was not so unhappy as the losses I had met with would persuade me: 'Tis true, I was depriv'd of a plentiful fortune, but that was attended with many cares, and threaten'd with great disturbances, and wonderful anxieties perpetually tortur'd my mind; on account of my dear *Elvira*, whom I loved with the most violent of passion; on the other side, I began to set my gains against my losses, and found my self in the possession of that dear woman, without whom I could not hope for any happiness; that I
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had her without rival, without any awe of parents, entirely to my self, and full of equal love; that as I wanted the pomp and equipage of the world, so I was on the other side free from all its disquiets. Company I wanted none, for *Elvira* was as much as I desir'd. These considerations, and many more of this kind, made me not only believe that I was happy by my present lot, but perswaded *Elvira* that she was so too; and indeed she never discover'd the least sentiments that she thought otherwise. We enjoy'd each other all the day and all the night too, we were never weary of being together, but always uneasy when necessity at any time parted us but for a quarter of an hour: Thus I never went out when my walk was not beyond her strength, but she went with me. I seldom went without my gun upon my shoulder, and going one day with her by the sea shore we were surpris'd at the approach of three lyons, who coming out of the sea made directly at us. I being a pretty good marks-man, shot the first of them directly into the eye, upon which he fell down dead; and either the flash of the fire, or the noise of the gun so frighten'd the other two, that they turn'd about, and made all their speed back into the sea. I charg'd my piece again immediately, however we both took a full view of the dead monster, which was of a vast magnitude; but knowing of no use it could be to me, *Elvira* and I retreated and left him

him upon the sand; whence the next tide, as I suppose, carry'd him quite away; for when I went that way again, I saw nothing of him. Finding that poor stock of provision which was set on shore with me began to decrease, I took care to provide for the future; and not only sow'd again the turnip-seed that I had gather'd, but also some *Indian* wheat and rice, hoping that in time they might yield a convenient crop for our future occasions: I likewise look'd out for kids and pigs, and got enough of them both for present food, and to feed and bring up tame. I having a pot, and two or three napkins, a cup or two, and some earthen plates, *Elvira* had her dinners better dress'd and serv'd up than before I came.

IN this manner we spent our life, abounding in nothing but love; nor had we any accidents or adventures during the three years she liv'd with me: But my joys were too compleat, for the malice of my fortune, to allow me a long continuance of 'em; and therefore towards the latter end of the third year *Elvira* was taken dangerously ill, and the distemper was so violent, that it carry'd her off in three days time.

NOTHING ever went so near my heart as this loss, and had I not been preserv'd for more evils, the grief that *Elvira's* death gave me, would certainly have put an end to my life:
I could

I could not leave the dear body for near two days after her decease, but press'd and kiss'd it as if she was yet alive; but coming a little to my self, I consider'd that she must be buried, since it was impossible to keep her another day in this hot climate without putrefaction; I took pains, therefore, to dig a grave as deep as I could; into which, having first kiss'd her, tho' she began to smell pretty strong, I gently let her down in her cloaths, and cover'd her up with the earth, my eyes flowing all the while with tears. After this I led a very melancholy life for two years, five months and seven days, without any manner of occurrence worth the inserting.

ON the last of those days, standing upon the beach with my gun on my shoulder, I discover'd a sail about three leagues to the *South*, but directed its course *Northward*; I fir'd my piece (having made very little use of my powder) which they took for a signal of distress; but I discharg'd it once more, and then I perceiv'd they stood in to the land; and in less than two hour's time, came so near as to be able to call to me. They ask'd who, and what I was, in a sort of broken *Spanish*? And I finding, by some of the oaths of the mariners, that they were *English*, answer'd them as lamely; telling them that I was all alone upon the island, and desir'd them to take me in, and I would give them an account of my

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story.

story. They presently mann'd out their boat, which came on shore and took me on board, without ever going back to my quarters, where I had left nothing worth preserving. It happen'd to be a *Jamaica* Sloop, *William Thomas*, master, which had been carrying on that private trade with the *Spanish Indians*, which the men of *Jamaica* had found very beneficial; though oftentimes very hazardous, because it was practis'd against the *Spanish* laws, but private gain seldom has much regard to publick ties. We had a prosperous voyage to *Jamaica*, where the account of my story procur'd me such a Benefaction as was fit to set me out, and bear my charges into *England*, whence I have been absent now many years. I found means of getting from *London* to *Edinburgh*, where my father was yet alive, tho' very old and crazy, my ill natur'd mother-in-law having been dead for some time. My father was very glad to receive me, and at his death, which happen'd soon after, left me an equal portion with the rest of his children: And here I shall conclude my narration, what has since happen'd to me affording nothing material, or any way useful for a general entertainment.

F I N I S.

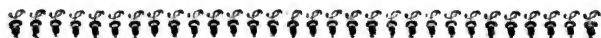




ERRATA.

PAge 3. line 9. read *Simono' du Change*. p. 33. l. 21. r. *me*.
p. 43. l. 15. for *saw by us* r. *sail'd by*. p. 45. l. 26. r. *by*.
p. 57. l. 13. r. *in*. p. 68. l. 1. r. *is*. p. 80. l. 11. add *cut*.

P. 2. l. 27. r. *musick*. p. 7. l. 15. r. *in*.



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